Operational Impact of Ammonia as Marine Fuel

A MILP model for an Ammonia-Powered Shipping Network

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Thesis for the degree of MSc in Marine Technology in the specialization of *Maritime Operations and Management*

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by

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Cover: Crude Tanker - Agios Fanourios I (Modified) from: http://cache.eastmedmla.com/vessels/tankers/46.jpg

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Abstract

The consequences of climate change are becoming more and more visible. A significant cause of this is CO2 emissions; the shipping sector is responsible for 3% of global CO2 emissions. As a result, the Fourth IMO GHG Study 2020 presents pathways to reduce the GHG emission of the shipping industry by 50% by 2050. Recent IMO goals have overtaken this to reduce net emissions to zero by that year.

As a result, research in renewable energy sources has grown in significant interest, offering a wide range of potential solutions. Recently, (green) ammonia (NH3) has been added to these pools, as it is carbon-free and has a higher storage density than liquid or pressurized hydrogen. However, when comparing ammonia to the current conservative fuels, its energy density is still not at the same level, and more fuel volume would be required to deliver the same amount of energy. There are two ways to address this challenge. More frequent bunkering or larger volumes for the fuel tanks on board at the cost of cargo space and thus income. This is a difficult choice to make in the pre-design as it depends on the choices of other owners as well.

This report investigates the impact of a fuel switch to ammonia on the ship design and bunkering pattern based on the current operational profile of 1025 seagoing ships. A mixed integer linear programming model will establish the optimal fuel tank volume and bunkering strategy for each vessel. This model considers rerouting for trips that are not feasible and two approaches for the bunker strategy. Besides, a port model will establish the ammonia bunker pricing based on the resulting demand in each port. The estimated ammonia bunker prices are implemented in the bunker strategy model. This is repeated till a balance is found. The two models represent an Ammonia Powered Shipping Network considering a homogeneous shipping market. The report presents the results and key factors influencing the balance between the fuel tank volume and the sailing range. The simulated bunker strategies show different possibilities for finding this balance and reducing the operational impact caused by the transition to ammonia.

Preface

This research was undoubtedly the most challenging project of my academic career so far. Finishing this thesis has been an educational and fascinating journey. However, it wasn't all smooth sailing. I definitely underestimated how time-consuming some aspects of this research would be. Especially developing a model from scratch, along with collecting the raw data - including a set of 1025 ships and 644 ports - and transforming this into suitable input data and then writing down all these efforts in a structured report.

In the end, overcoming these bumps in the road led me to complete my master's with this thesis, as well as improving my Python skills significantly. This only makes me more excited to share my research, which hopefully will contribute to reducing the use of fossil fuels and will make the maritime industry a little bit more sustainable. Knowing that my research could be part of a bigger picture was an important source of motivation.

During this process, I wasn't completely left on my own. I would like to thank my parents. Their support, feedback, and numerous walks encouraged me to stay focused. Not at the least, I want to thank my sisters and brother, who have helped me to stay down to earth during the last months.

Above all, I would like to thank Jeroen Pruyn and Hesam Naghash for their supervision and patience throughout this project. Their assistance in finding useful data sources for the model and providing me with the AIS dataset has supported me in developing the model for my research.

This thesis marks the end of my time as a student, and I couldn't be more grateful to have studied in Delft. Over the past eight years, I have not only had the privilege of getting an excellent education, but I have also built meaningful and long-lasting friendships in my student house and in and around the university. These experiences have significantly enriched my academic and personal growth, leaving an unforgettable mark on this chapter of my life.

> *F. T. Boersma Rotterdam, February 2024*

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Acronyms

AIS Automatic Identification System. [23,](#page-35-2) [29](#page-41-1), [32,](#page-44-1) [37](#page-49-1)–[42,](#page-54-1) [49,](#page-61-0) [50](#page-62-2), [53,](#page-65-1) [57](#page-69-1), [74](#page-86-0) **APSN model** Ammonia Powered Shipping Network model. [19–](#page-31-1)[21](#page-33-0), [32,](#page-44-1) [41](#page-53-1), [48](#page-60-3), [53,](#page-65-1) [60](#page-72-1), [69,](#page-81-3) [71–](#page-83-1)[74](#page-86-0)

BS model Ammonia Bunker Strategy Optimization model. [17](#page-29-1), [19,](#page-31-1) [20](#page-32-1), [22](#page-34-1)–[27,](#page-39-0) [29](#page-41-1), [30,](#page-42-3) [58,](#page-70-1) [59](#page-71-1), [62,](#page-74-1) [63](#page-75-1) **BS-model** Ammonia Bunker Startegy Model. [22](#page-34-1)

CAPEX Capital Expenditures. [vii,](#page-9-1) [ix](#page-11-0), [16,](#page-28-1) [20](#page-32-1), [26](#page-38-1)–[28,](#page-40-0) [71](#page-83-1), [72](#page-84-1) **CO**² carbon dioxide. [1,](#page-13-1) [2,](#page-14-1) [4,](#page-16-0) [13](#page-25-1), [37](#page-49-1)

DLCOA Delivered Levelized Cost Of Ammonia. [26](#page-38-1) **DNV** Det Norske Veritas. [5](#page-17-0) **DWT** deadweight tonnage. [5,](#page-17-0) [8,](#page-20-1) [31–](#page-43-1)[33](#page-45-0), [72](#page-84-1)

EC European Commission. [1](#page-13-1) **EM** Engine Margin. [35](#page-47-0) **ETC** Energy Transitions Commission. [16](#page-28-1) **ETS** Emissions Trading Systems. [1](#page-13-1), [70](#page-82-2) **EU** European Union. [68,](#page-80-0) [74](#page-86-0)

fcm fuel consumption per nautical miles. [22](#page-34-1)

GHG greenhouse gasses. [1](#page-13-1), [2](#page-14-1), [5](#page-17-0), [6](#page-18-2), [70](#page-82-2)

H² Hydrogen. [1](#page-13-1), [2](#page-14-1) **HFO** Heavy Fuel Oil. [5,](#page-17-0) [36](#page-48-0)

ICE Internal Combustion Engine. [36](#page-48-0) **IEA** International Energy Agency. [4](#page-16-0) **IMO** International Maritime Organisation. [1](#page-13-1), [2](#page-14-1), [5](#page-17-0), [38](#page-50-2), [75](#page-87-1) **IRENA** International Renewable Energy Agency. [4](#page-16-0), [5,](#page-17-0) [70](#page-82-2)

KPF Key Performance Factors. [15](#page-27-0)

LH² Liquified Hydrogen. [2](#page-14-1) **LHV** Liquified Heat Value. [36](#page-48-0) **LNG** Liquified Natural Gas. [1](#page-13-1), [2,](#page-14-1) [5,](#page-17-0) [33](#page-45-0), [58](#page-70-1) **LWT** lightweight tonnage. [32](#page-44-1)

MAGPIE sMart Green Ports as Integrated Efficient multimodal hubs project. [5](#page-17-0), [7](#page-19-2), [50,](#page-62-2) [68](#page-80-0), [70,](#page-82-2) [74](#page-86-0) **MBM** Market-based Measures. [70](#page-82-2) **MCDM** Multi-Criteria Decision-making. [15](#page-27-0)

MCR Maximum Continuous Rating. [34,](#page-46-1) [53](#page-65-1) **MDO** Marine Diesel Oil. [5](#page-17-0) **MFO** Marine Fuel Oil. [5](#page-17-0), [15](#page-27-0) **MILP** mixed-integer linear programming. [19,](#page-31-1) [20](#page-32-1), [24](#page-36-1)

N² Nitrogen. [2](#page-14-1) **NH**³ ammonia. [1](#page-13-1), [6](#page-18-2) **NO***^x* Nitrogenoxides. [1,](#page-13-1) [2,](#page-14-1) [12](#page-24-1)

OPEX Operating Expenditures. [vii,](#page-9-1) [13](#page-25-1), [16,](#page-28-1) [20](#page-32-1), [24](#page-36-1), [26–](#page-38-1)[28](#page-40-0), [42](#page-54-1)

PEM Proton Exchange Membrane. [3](#page-15-0) **PLCOA** Production Levelized Cost Of Ammonia. [15,](#page-27-0) [26](#page-38-1), [43](#page-55-0) **Port model** Ammonia Bunker Port model. [17](#page-29-1), [19,](#page-31-1) [20,](#page-32-1) [26](#page-38-1), [27,](#page-39-0) [30](#page-42-3), [58](#page-70-1), [60,](#page-72-1) [62](#page-74-1), [64,](#page-76-1) [65](#page-77-0), [71](#page-83-1)

Ro-Ro Roll on Roll off. [5,](#page-17-0) [70](#page-82-2)

SIN Shipping Intelegence Network. [29,](#page-41-1) [38,](#page-50-2) [41](#page-53-1), [42](#page-54-1) **SO***^x* Sulfoxides. [1,](#page-13-1) [2](#page-14-1) **SOFC** Solid Oxide Fuel Cells. [36](#page-48-0)

TEU Twenty-feet Equivalent Unit. [33](#page-45-0)

THETIS-MRV The Hybrid European Targeting and Inspection System for Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification. [29](#page-41-1), [31,](#page-43-1) [32](#page-44-1), [37](#page-49-1), [38,](#page-50-2) [40](#page-52-1), [41,](#page-53-1) [48](#page-60-3)

TTW Tank-to-wake. [1](#page-13-1)

UK United Kingdom. [3](#page-15-0) **UN/LOCODE** United Nations Code of Trade and Transport Locations. [37,](#page-49-1) [42,](#page-54-1) [71](#page-83-1) **UNFCCC** the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. [1](#page-13-1) **USA** United States of America. [3](#page-15-0)

VLSFO Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil. [43](#page-55-0)

WFR World Fleet Register. [29,](#page-41-1) [31](#page-43-1)–[34](#page-46-1) **WPI** World Port Index. [29](#page-41-1) **WTT** Well-to-take. [2](#page-14-1)

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Introduction

1

In 2015, [the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change \(UNFCCC\)](#page-8-0) adopted the Paris Agreement. This agreement states that the participating parties must cut their emissions by 50% by 2030 to prevent global warming of more than 1.5 *◦*C (UNFCCC, [2015](#page-89-0)). The Paris Agreement also includes maritime shipping, which is responsible for almost 3% of the carbon dioxide ($CO₂$) emissions worldwide in 2018, according to research presented in the *Fourth IMO GHG Study 2020* [\(International](#page-7-2) [Maritime Organisation \(IMO\),](#page-7-2) [2021\)](#page-87-2). A significant part of these emissions can be accounted for by international shipping (2% of the worldwide $CO₂$ $CO₂$ emissions); thus, the maritime industry can play an essential role in the development of climate change (IEA, [2022](#page-88-0)). Therefore, the [IMO](#page-7-2) presented a strategy to reduce the total annual [greenhouse gasses \(GHG\)](#page-7-3) emission from international shipping by at least 50% by 2050 compared to 2008 (International Maritime Organization, [2018\)](#page-88-1), which recently is enhanced to 80%. As a result, multiple organizations implemented new regulations for emissions to encourage the industry to reduce their emissions and develop more sustainable alternatives. For example, the [European Commission \(EC\)](#page-7-4) introduced the EU [Emissions Trading Systems \(ETS\)](#page-7-5), which makes shipowners pay for emissions, including carbon dioxide, methane and nitrogen dioxide, and the FuelEU Maritime Initiative, which sets specific GHG intensity limits on energy used onboard vessels (European Commission, [2021\)](#page-87-3). The main reason for the emissions is that fossil fuels are still the most significant energy source in the shipping industry. Therefore, the shipping industry must transition to alternative fuels that produce lower or zero emissions to exert a substantial impact.

In recent decades, the research of alternative low and zero $CO₂$ $CO₂$ emission fuels and their potential to replace existing fuels has significantly increased. This resulted in technical developments and sustainable innovations for the realistic implementation of alternative fuels. Currently, the high potential alternative fuels can be divided into two categories, low-carbon fuels like methanol, [Liquified Natural](#page-7-6) [Gas \(LNG\)](#page-7-6) and biofuel and zero-carbon fuels like [ammonia \(NH](#page-8-1)₃) and [Hydrogen \(H](#page-7-7)₂) (Pruyn et al., [2022;](#page-89-1) DNV, [2021;](#page-87-4) Al-Enazi et al., [2022\)](#page-87-5). Ammonia and hydrogen produce no carbon emissions, and for that reason, these two fuels have an advantage over the other alternative fuels.

Due to its high hydrogen content, several sources suggest that ammonia could be a future fuel option for shipping (McKinlay et al., [2020](#page-89-2)). Like hydrogen, ammonia could be burned or used in a fuel cell. A third option would be to use ammonia as a hydrogen carrier. Transport of hydrogen contained in ammonia molecules is far more efficient than directly compressing hydrogen in fuel containers. Therefore, ammonia is gaining more interest from the industry (European Maritime Safety Agency, [2022](#page-87-6), Hansson et al., [2020\)](#page-88-2), with zero [Nitrogenoxides \(NO](#page-8-2)_x), [Sulfoxides \(SO](#page-8-3)_x) and [CO](#page-7-1)₂ emissions (Al-Enazi et al., [2022](#page-87-5)), as the energy density of ammonia is higher compared to the other alternative fuels. For example, the energy density of pressured liquid hydrogen, at a pressure of 70 MPa, is three times lower than for ammonia in the same condition (Valera-Medina et al., [2018](#page-90-0)). Therefore, less storage space is required for the same amount of energy and, therefore, will have less effect on the cargo storage capacity of vessels (McKinlay et al., [2021\)](#page-89-3).

When green ammonia is used as a marine fuel, not only the [Tank-to-wake \(TTW\)](#page-8-4) process is carbon-

free, but the [Well-to-take \(WTT\)](#page-8-5) process can reduce [GHG](#page-7-3) emissions as well. This makes ammonia a high potential marine fuel in the challenge to reduce [GHG](#page-7-3) emissions with 80% by 2050 (familyDNV, [2023\)](#page-87-7). Last year, several companies in the industry announced to invest in ammonia production plants and import in Europa (Cepsa and Fertiberia, [2023](#page-87-8); FLUOR, [2023;](#page-87-9) OCI, [2022](#page-89-4); HES International et al., [2022](#page-88-3); Orsted, [2021](#page-89-5)). The prognosis is that blue and green ammonia will increase to 42% of the market share in maritime fuels, starting to substitute [LNG](#page-7-6) and fossil fuels from 2035 (Wu et al., [2022\)](#page-90-1). Therefore, proper and extensive research on ammonia as a marine fuel and its impact on the maritime sector is required.

1.1. Ammonia as Marine Fuel

Ammonia is a carbon-free chemical compound consisting of one Nitrogen (N_2) and three [H](#page-7-7)₂ atoms, bonded to 2 NH₃, as described in equation [1.1](#page-14-2). Ammonia is a colourless gas with a boiling point of -33*◦*C at atmospheric pressure (1 bar) and can be liquefied at 20*◦*C when compressed to 0.8 MPa. This makes ammonia a more accessible fuel to store compared to other renewable fuels, like hydrogen. Its gravimetric energy density (22.5 MJ/kg) is comparable to methanol (22.7 MJ/kg), ethanol (29.7 kJ/kg), which are carbon-containing fuels and is lower than natural gas (55 MJ/kg), diesel (45 MJ/kg), and hydrogen (142 MJ/kg) (Al-Aboosi et al., [2021](#page-87-10)). However, the volumetric energy density of ammonia (9.45 MJ/L) is 2.5 higher than compressed hydrogen (3.73 MJ/L) (Snaathorst, [2022\)](#page-89-6). The flammability of ammonia is negligible to zero (Klerke et al., [2008\)](#page-88-4), which is much lower than hydrogen and methanol (Foretich et al., [2021;](#page-87-11) National Fire Protection Association, [2017](#page-89-7); Ji et al., [2021](#page-88-5)). This makes it possible to store ammonia safely onshore and onboard. The carbon-free fuel has a toxicity over three orders of magnitude higher than comparable fuels such as methanol or diesel (McKinlay et al., [2020\)](#page-89-2). According to Al-Enazi et al. [\(2022\)](#page-87-5), ammonia produces no NO_x NO_x -, SO_x SO_x - and $CO₂$ $CO₂$ -emissions, which makes ammonia an attractive fuel regarding the [IMO](#page-7-2) sustainability goals.

Like hydrogen, ammonia could be burned and used in a fuel cell. A third option would be to use ammonia as a hydrogen carrier (McKinlay et al., [2020](#page-89-2)). Besides, ammonia contains more hydrogen than pressurised or Liquified Hydrogen (LH_2) itself and can be stored under more manageable conditions, either liquified under pressure (10 bar at 25*◦*C) or refrigerated (boiling point -33*◦*C) (Butler et al., [2023\)](#page-87-12). At the same time, hydrogen has a liquefaction temperature of -253*◦*C (ABS, [2020](#page-87-13)). For onshore and onboard ammonia tanks, it is cheaper and safer when stored in refrigerated form (Butler et al., [2023\)](#page-87-12).

Production Process

The production of ammonia as a hydrogen carrier is comparable to the production of hydrogen. However, the ammonia production is expanded with an extra step to transform the hydrogen into ammonia. A standard method to realise this last step is the Haber-Bosch process. The Haber-Bosch process is a synthetic manufacturing technique to produce ammonia and takes place under high pressure (15-20 MPa) and temperatures of 400*◦*C to 500*◦*C. Equation [1.1](#page-14-2) shows the chemical process in this method (Al-Aboosi et al., [2021](#page-87-10)).

$$
N_2 + 3H_2 = 2NH_3(-91.8 \, kJ/mol) \tag{1.1}
$$

To realise the Haber-Bosch process, a large amount of hydrogen is required, and therefore, ammonia production highly depends on hydrogen production. Hydrogen can be provided from fossil fuels, like natural gas, or green electricity from wind and solar energy. This results in three production processes to obtain ammonia, resulting in grey, blue or green ammonia, also known as e-ammonia.

Today, ammonia production mainly consists of grey ammonia, produced with energy input from fossil fuels. For grey ammonia, the required hydrogen is obtained from natural gas, and the next step is methane reforming to prepare the hydrogen for the Haber-Bosch process. The $CO₂$ $CO₂$ emissions are significantly higher than other fuels during this process. The process for blue ammonia is similar to that for grey ammonia, except that in this process, the carbon emissions in hydrogen production are captured before the Haber-Bosch process. Therefore, the production of blue ammonia can be used to reduce carbon emissions in the production process. However, this reduces a significant part of the [CO](#page-7-1)₂-emissions; it is not 100% carbon-free (Butler et al., [2023\)](#page-87-12). In figure [1.1](#page-15-1), the production process of green ammonia is demonstrated, including the Haber-Bosch process.

Figure 1.1: Renewable e-ammonia production process via Haber-Bosch process (IRENA, [2021](#page-88-6))

Green ammonia is the cleanest production process for ammonia production, with 0% carbon-emission. In this process, the energy input is obtained by green energy power plants like solar panels, wind turbines and hydropower (Armijo and Philibert, [2020](#page-87-14)). Using this green electricity and electrolysis, water is split in an electrolyser to produce the hydrogen required for the Haber-Bosch process. Commonly used electrolysers are an alkaline electrolyser, an [Proton Exchange Membrane \(PEM\)](#page-8-7) electrolyser, or a solid oxide electrolyser. The technology for green ammonia production is still under development. Following in promising results of green ammonia pilot plants converting solar and wind energy into ammonia and producing 20-30 kg/day (Japan and [United Kingdom \(UK\)\)](#page-8-8), or 25 tons/year([United States](#page-8-9) [of America \(USA\)](#page-8-9)) (Al-Aboosi et al., [2021\)](#page-87-10). Besides the promising results and the proof of concept, green ammonia has not been developed for large-scale production. Next to the onshore ammonia production development, recent research is also looking into opportunities for offshore hydrogen and ammonia power plants to expand the future demand for ammonia (Salmon and Bañares-Alcántara, [2022\)](#page-89-8).

Ammonia Market

Ammonia is not a novel stock on the global market. For decades, ammonia has been transported overseas as a commercial good and is mainly used to create fertiliser in agriculture (McKinlay et al., [2020\)](#page-89-2). According to Valera-Medina et al. [\(2021\)](#page-89-9), the global ammonia production in 2021 amounts to 146 million t/year, with primary production locations in China (48 Mt/year), Russia (12 Mt/year), India (11 Mt/year), and the [USA](#page-8-9) (9 Mt/year). The report from ALFA LAVAL et al. [\(2020](#page-87-15)) estimated the annual global production of 180 million tons, including an overcapacity of 60 million tons. This report suggests an ammonia fuel price of \$13.5 per gigajoule (GJ).

The infrastructure for ammonia distribution already exists globally, and 120 ports are equipped with ammonia trading facilities (ALFA LAVAL et al., [2020](#page-87-15)). Besides the existing ammonia ports, the global ammonia trade indicates the experience of safely storing ammonia onboard vessels. This confirms the potential feasibility of ammonia-fueled vessels and an ammonia bunker network.

However, an ammonia-powered shipping industry of 40% of the global shipping market suggests by Scarbrough et al.([2022\)](#page-89-10) requires the ammonia demand for the shipping industry will be 150 to 200 million tons per year (ALFA LAVAL et al., [2020\)](#page-87-15). Besides, the shipping industry is not the only market for ammonia, as it will also be used for industrial demand, power generation, cracking into hydrogen and fertiliser (Butler et al., [2023\)](#page-87-12). Considering this, the supply chain for ammonia has to increase. Nayak-Luke and Bañares-Alcántara([2020\)](#page-89-11) establish a selection of 534 potential locations for green ammonia production, shown in figure [1.2.](#page-16-1)

Figure 1.2: Potential location for green ammonia production, grouped by geographical region (Nayak-Luke and Bañares-Alcántara, [2020](#page-89-11)).

The reports of IEA([2021](#page-88-7)) and IRENA([2021\)](#page-88-6) confirm that ammonia will expand to be a significant contributor to the marine fuel market. The IRENA report suggests that ammonia will be responsible for 40% of the global fuel demand in 2050, according to the plausible pathway. This pathway considers the scenario where global warming is limited to an increase of 1.5[°]C and brings [CO](#page-7-1)₂ emissions closest to net zero by 2050. In figure [1.3,](#page-16-2) the development of the energy demand according to the 1.5*◦*C scenario from IRENA([2021\)](#page-88-6) is shown.

Figure 1.3: The energy demand development considering the 1.5*◦*C Scenario energy pathway 2018–2050 from IRENA [\(2021](#page-88-6))

Ammonia and shipping

The opportunities of ammonia as a marine fuel are broadly recognized in the maritime industry. Multiply organizations, like the [International Renewable Energy Agency \(IRENA\),](#page-7-9) [International Energy Agency](#page-7-10) [\(IEA\),](#page-7-10) and [Det Norske Veritas \(DNV\),](#page-7-11) drawn pathways suggesting ammonia will become the marine fuel of the future, become responsible for 30 to 40 % of the total marine fuel market in 2050. Their confidence in the high potential of the zero-carbon fuel is mainly based on ammonia's environmental and energy transfer advantages. Several companies have already relied on the fuel's potential and have invested in large ammonia production power plants.

The promising character of ammonia as a renewable fuel for the maritime industry enforces the significant increase in research on this topic, both academically and from the industry itself. Multiple studies have investigated the design and performance changes required for a ship to be powered with ammonia. These studies discuss a wide variety of ships, among others: [LNG](#page-7-6) carriers (McKinlay et al., [2021](#page-89-3)), containerships (Wu et al., [2022\)](#page-90-1), bulk carriers (Sommer, [2023](#page-89-12)) and tankers (Snaathorst, [2022](#page-89-6)). These four studies acknowledge that the lower energy density of ammonia will increase the required fuel tank volume of the ships to maintain the same energy output compared to [Heavy Fuel Oil \(HFO\)](#page-7-12), [Marine](#page-8-10) [Diesel Oil \(MDO\)](#page-8-10) and other conservative fuels.

According to Yang and Lam [\(2023\)](#page-90-2), fuel tanks of an ammonia-powered ship require 1.6-2.3 times more volume than conventional [Marine Fuel Oil \(MFO\)](#page-8-11) powered ships. For ships powered with [LNG,](#page-7-6) the tank volume needs to increase with 50% of the fuel tank to provide the same amount of power (Machaj et al., [2022](#page-88-8)). This will impact the ship design (larger ship sizes or decreased cargo space) and the bunkering pattern (smaller sailing range or bunker more frequently) or both. Secondly, ammonia is known to be a highly toxic substance. This is considered a main issue for ammonia as a marine fuel (ABS, [2020](#page-87-13)). Therefore, it is recommended that strict safety regulations be developed and specific crew training should be provided before implementing the fuel.

Next to this, a switch to ammonia as a marine fuel is not only affecting the ship's design and performance. In the prospect of the suggested pathway towards 2050 by [IRENA](#page-7-9), the ammonia-powered ships will also have an impact on the shipping network in general. Supply possibilities, like bunker location and supply capacities, have an impact on ship design and other considerations. The operational aspect of the ammonia-powered shipping network has been inadequately addressed in recent research, in contrast to the technology and environmental impact. However, the [sMart Green Ports as Integrated](#page-7-13) [Efficient multimodal hubs project \(MAGPIE\)](#page-7-13) project is exploring the bunker supply possibilities for green energy carriers, like ammonia.

The [MAGPIE](#page-7-13) project is a European-orientated project with the goal of reducing the [GHG](#page-7-3) emissions in the transport sector, including seagoing transport. Part of this project focuses on investigating alternative fuels in several transport methods. According to their last deliverable, ammonia came forward as one of the future fuels for seagoing ships, especially for trips of more than one day (Pruyn et al., [2022\)](#page-89-1). More specifically, ammonia is the most suitable fuel for larger vessels, >25000 [deadweight ton](#page-7-14)[nage \(DWT\)](#page-7-14), including container vessels, [Roll on Roll off \(Ro-Ro\)](#page-8-12) vessels, bulk carriers, tankers and miscellaneous. The report assumes these vessels will use ammonia for trips of 2 to 4 days from 2040 on. From 2050 on, ammonia is also suited for trips longer than five days (Pruyn et al., [2022](#page-89-1)). This conclusion is supported by other research, which acknowledges that ammonia as a fuel will be most relevant for seagoing shipping (Christodoulou and Cullinane, [2022](#page-87-16); McKinlay et al., [2021](#page-89-3); Wu et al., [2022\)](#page-90-1). According to the IRENA [\(2021\)](#page-88-6), "Large and very large ships are responsible for about 85% of net [GHG](#page-7-3) emissions associated with the international shipping sector". Considering this statement, a fuel switch to ammonia would be even more effective to reach the climate goals purposed in the *Fourth IMO GHG Study 2020* for [IMO](#page-7-2) [\(2021](#page-87-2)).

All in all, ammonia is a promising fuel to reduce the [GHG](#page-7-3) emissions in maritime shipping. Research has shown the technical and environmental possibilities of ammonia (van Veldhuizen et al., [2023](#page-90-3)) and the required safety regulations for the use of ammonia as a fuel onboard and onshore (ABS, [2020](#page-87-13); National Fire Protection Association, [2017](#page-89-7)). However, the impact of ammonia on the operational aspects of the maritime industry and what is required to implement ammonia as a bunker fuel in the current shipping network is not investigated in prior research. Therefore, this report presents research on the operational feasibility of an ammonia-powered shipping network, considering related challenges regarding the increase in fuel volume for ammonia.

2

Problem Statement

Recent research shows promising theoretical results for ammonia as a marine fuel, especially for seagoing ships. This fuel could contribute as a potential solution to reducing the [GHG](#page-7-3) emissions in maritime shipping (van Veldhuizen et al., [2023\)](#page-90-3). The published research about ammonia is mainly attracting the technical and environmental possibilities of ammonia and the required safety regulations of the use of ammonia as a fuel onboard and onshore (ABS, [2020;](#page-87-13) National Fire Protection Association, [2017\)](#page-89-7). However, the operational impact of ammonia on the operational aspects of the maritime industry and what is required to implement ammonia as a bunker fuel in the current shipping network has not been investigated in prior research. Two operational challenges emerge when implementing ammonia as a marine fuel in the global shipping market. The increasing fuel volume required to deliver the same amount of energy impacts the ship's design and performance, and the non-existent ammonia bunkering network introduces uncertainties regarding the reliability of the supply.

2.1. Energy Density of Ammonia

The first operational challenge regarding ammonia as a marine fuel occurs as a result of the lower energy density of the fuel compared to conservative fuels, like fuel oil, as shown in table [2.1](#page-18-3). To provide ships with the same amount of energy, the required fuel volume will increase significantly. This implies that the fuel tanks of ships have to be expanded to realize the switch to ammonia, which impacts the ship's design. Increasing the fuel tanks results in a reduction in the cargo capacity of the ship and, therefore, a reduction in the income of the ship operators. Alternatively, the required fuel volume of the ships can be cut by lowering the fuel consumption. Fuel consumption is related to the ship's performance, depending on, among other things, the ship's sailing speed and the range at which it sails. Considering these relations, a lower sailing speed or shorter distances can reduce the expansion of the fuel tanks for ammonia-powered ships. Combining these possibilities to deal with this challenge can result in a minimal impact on the design and performance of the ship. According to the student, no studies have been published yet regarding this challenge on a global scale.

Table 2.1: The volumetric energy density (*ρV E*), gravimetric energy density (*ρME*) and density (*ρ*) of Fuel Oil and Ammonia (IRENA, [2021;](#page-88-6) Snaathorst and Pruyn, [2022\)](#page-89-13)

Recent research shows that the fuel tank onboard the ship has to change significantly when the fuel switches to ammonia. The volume and the weight of the fuel can increase by 50% and 100%, respectively (McKinlay et al., [2021;](#page-89-3)Wu et al., [2022\)](#page-90-1). This affects the total weight and space consideration in the ship design. Considering that the fuel tank of the ship requires more space, there is less space left for cargo, or the ship needs to be larger. Another way to deal with this is to make a compromise in the sailing range of the ship or to find a way to reduce fuel consumption (Foretich et al., [2021;](#page-87-11) Prussi et al., [2021\)](#page-89-14). Considering that most merchant ships are designed with fuel tank volumes that fit 2.5 times the required amount of fuel oil for their trips, the ships can bunker at the ports with the lowest bunker prices on their route (Snaathorst, [2022\)](#page-89-6). This overcapacity can contribute to decreasing the impact of the energy density of ammonia on the ship design. Therefore, a balance should be found between the increase of the fuel tank volume and the reduction of the sailing range.

2.2. Uncertain Bunker Supply

Secondly, there are still uncertainties regarding the availability and supply of the fuels, which are related to the bunker price and uptake of ammonia in the market (Prussi et al., [2021](#page-89-14)). Several developments are going on, but most of them have not been realized and proven in practice. Regarding the availability of ammonia supply ports, an estimation of the future demand for ammonia in ports is required to generate a feasibility analysis for investing in ammonia supply facilities in ports. This uncertainty makes it difficult to indicate the prospection of the fuel price for ammonia, which is significantly higher than conservative fuels. However, by switching from conservative fuels to ammonia, ship operators can avoid possible carbon taxes due to the carbon-free character of ammonia.

2.3. Research Questions

The two challenges posed in sections 2.1 and 2.2 both reflect on the operational feasibility of ammonia as a marine fuel and will be investigated in this research. Therefore, the objective of this research is to develop a model for an ammonia-powered shipping network. The model has to examine the operational performance of the ships considering a fuel switch to ammonia. This includes the effect of the design and performance parameters of ships. Besides, the model has to explore the opportunities for ammonia bunkering. In order to obtain the research objective, the main research question this report will answer is:

What is the operational impact on the ship design, performance and bunker port network when switching to ammonia as a marine fuel, considering a homogeneous shipping market?

Sub questions

To answer this main research question, the following research questions are established:

- 1. What parameters have a significant influence on the operational performance of seagoing vessels, like the fuel consumption and bunkering pattern?
- 2. What are the model requirements to simulate the operational impact of ammonia on the ship design and performance and the bunker port network?
- 3. What is the impact on the **fuel tank volume** of seagoing vessels with an economical and operational feasible ammonia bunker strategy?
- 4. What is the impact on the **sailing speed** of seagoing vessels with an economical and operational feasible ammonia bunker strategy?
- 5. What is the impact on the **sailing range** of seagoing vessels with an economical and operational feasible ammonia bunker strategy?
- 6. Which **ports** are suitable to be part of an ammonia bunker port network, which is economical and operationally feasible?

The objective of this research derives from the results in *Deliverable 3.1* and *Deliverable 3.6* from the [MAGPIE](#page-7-13) project and the growing interest in the potential of ammonia as a marine fuel (Pruyn et al., [2022;](#page-89-1) Butler et al., [2023\)](#page-87-12). Therefore, this research is performed within the scope of the [MAGPIE](#page-7-13) project. The research presented a model for an ammonia-powered shipping network that is EU-oriented and

specified for seagoing ships with a [DWT](#page-7-14) larger than 25000 tonnes. Besides, it is assumed that the ammonia-powered shipping network is implemented as a homogeneous shipping market for ammonia.

2.4. Methodology

This section briefly describes the methodology that was followed for this research. Figure 2.1 shows a schematic overview.

Figure 2.1: The five steps perform in the research.

Literature Research

Firstly, literature research is performed to determine the relations between the main design and performance parameters regarding bunker strategies and the consequences of ammonia as a marine fuel. Besides, current studies on bunker strategy models and port choice models are researched to establish the model requirements. The literature research also includes a further investigation to determine the requirements and expenses for bunker ports to supply ammonia.

Data Collection

By performing a case study, the operational impact of ammonia can be studied in a realistic simulation of an ammonia-driven shipping network. The data for the simulations is obtained from the Clarkson World Fleet Register and the EU MRV-THETIS database. MarineTraffic.com provided the AIS port call data of the selected ship. The port data used in the case study is obtained from the World Port Index and complemented manually based on port data from MarineTraffic.com.

Data Processing

The available data cannot be adopted directly and is partly incomplete. Therefore, the data has to be transformed to be suitable and plausible input data for the model. In this process, the AIS data has to be cleaned to ensure a consistent sequence of port calls. Next to that, the ship data requires an extension to provide the required ship parameters for the model, and all data sets need to be merged.

Modelling

A model is established to examine the operational feasibility of an ammonia bunkering network. This model contains two parts. Firstly, an ammonia bunker optimization is developed to minimize the ship's loss of income based on fuel consumption. The optimization is performed in Python based on mixed integer linear programming. The model will generate an economic optimal balance between the changes in the fuel tank volume, the sailing range and speed. This model also indicates the ammonia demand in each port. The second part of the model estimates the fuel price of ammonia in each port and considers the demand and the costs to provide port facilities for ammonia supply. Modelling is done in Python with the use of the shortest route package from networkx.

Research Results

The results are presented in different scenarios that give a quantitative output of the costs, revenue, and port attractiveness of ammonia fuel demand and prices. These results are for the larger part presented per fleet type.

3

Literature Research

This chapter gives an overview of the recent developments regarding the effect of ammonia on ship performance, which is the result of the literature research. In section 3.1, the relationships between significant performance and design parameters are explained. These parameters will set the core structure of the model that is developed in this research. In section 3.2, the optimization approaches for a bunker strategy model are discussed. In section 3.3, the important considerations for port choice models and the formulation of the ammonia production price are described. This literature research establishes the main structure of the model. In section 3.4, the model structure is presented, as are the model requirements and assumptions.

3.1. Ship Parameters

In this section, the effect of ammonia on the design and performance parameters is described. The parameters that will be elaborated on are volume and mass, speed, fuel consumption, and sailing range. These parameters are assumed to be most relevant regarding a transition to ammonia. The parameters are elaborated individually, and their relation to other parameters is explained. Other parameters that are appointed in this section are emissions, ship deployment, ammonia and operational expenses. An overview of the relation between the parameters is summarized in table [4.3.](#page-36-2)

Weather conditions are a factor that affects the ship's performance. However, the implementation of weather conditions in a model requires a large dataset and depends on the exact location of the ship. This results in very detailed fluctuation in the performance. Therefore, the weather conditions in this research are neglected.

3.1.1. Volume and Mass

On this matter, Snaathorst and Pruyn [\(2022](#page-89-13)) studied the design and powering impact of alternative fuels, including ammonia, for three ship types. This study develops a parametric design tool, which provided the results shown in table [3.1](#page-21-3) for using ammonia as fuel. The results describe the impact of ammonia on the ships by an indication of the change regarding fuel oil for six design parameters: total installed power ($\Delta P_{B,TOT}$), main engine brake power ($\Delta P_{B,ME}$), overall internal volume (ΔV_{INT}), lightweight ship (∆*mLIGHT*), deadweight tonnage (∆*DW T*) and length-beam ratio (∆*L*/*B*).

Table 3.1: Design and power impact results for bulk carriers, tankers, and container ships using ammonia w.r.t. fuel oil. (Snaathorst and Pruyn, [2022](#page-89-13))

ship Type	$\Delta P_{B.TOT}$	ΔP_{BME}	ΔV_{INT}	Δm_{LIGHT}	ΔDWT	$\Delta L/B$
Bulk carriers	$+3.7%$	$+4.4\%$	$+5.3%$	$+21.8%$	$+2.2\%$	$+1.0\%$
Tankers	$+3.2\%$	$+4.2%$	$+5.2\%$	$+9.6%$	$+2.5%$	$+1.9%$
Container ships	$+4.9%$	$+5.9\%$	$+7.4%$	$+18.5%$	$+5.5\%$	$+24%$

An ammonia-powered ship requires more space for its fuel tank volume and propulsion system. There are two alternatives to implement this in the ship design. The size of the ship stays the same, and the cargo capacity of the ship reduces, or the size of the ship increases, equivalent to the increase in the fuel tank volume and propulsion system. An alternative design consideration is to obtain a balance between increasing the fuel tank volume and bunkering more frequently. These considerations are simulated in the scenarios of this research.

Fuel Tank Capacity

As mentioned before, one of the main issues of ammonia as a marine fuel is its lower energy density (Valera-Medina et al., [2018](#page-90-0)). As a result of which, the fuel volume required for the same energy content will be larger. Therefore, the fuel tank volume of the ship is an important element to analyze. Using ammonia requires adjustments to the size and mass of the propulsion system.

Lagemann et al.([2022](#page-88-9)) compared eight fuels on their performance for two trips of a LNG carrier with 73000 t deadweight (dwt) and 290 m length and 2700 $m³$ fuel oil tank volume. This study indicates that the fuel tank volume of the ship using ammonia needs to be 32% to 35% larger compared to an HFO-powered ship. For the total fuel tank mass, the difference between ammonia is even bigger, 48% more weight for ammonia. These results are relevant in the context of the impact of ammonia on the ship design. Both the ammonia tank volume and the ammonia fuel mass are parameters that are taken into account in the modelling in this research.

Energy System Requirements

Implementing new engine systems, like SOFC, involves changes in the design of the ship (ABS, [2020\)](#page-87-13). According to Wu et al., [2022,](#page-90-1) the volume of an ammonia SOFC has to be 2.5 times larger than the HFO ICE systems. The expected lifetime of the SOFC for ammonia is five to ten years, and 20 years for HFO ICE. The CAPEX of the system is about 50% higher compared to the engine system for HFO ICE. This includes the replacement of the SOFC after seven years. They also did an estimation for the OPEX of the ammonia SOFC system, based on the annual energy consumption, which is over 80% more expensive than an HFO-powered container carrier with the same operation profile. Important to mention is that next to the OPEX, the paper calculates the expected extra costs following the ETS regulation and includes an extra carbon tax in the OPEX for the HFO system.

Solid oxide fuel cells (SOFC) can be used to convert the hydrogen stored in ammonia directly to electricity. These SOFC systems are estimated to be 1.5 times bigger and heavier than diesel engines, producing the same power amount (Machaj et al., [2022](#page-88-8)).

3.1.2. Speed

Ships are designed with a design speed. This is the optimal speed for the installed propulsion system. This speed depends on the ship type, size, and the purpose of the operation. In general, the design speed operates at 80% of the engine power of the propulsion system. Nevertheless, the ideal speed of the ship can change during operation due to weather conditions, technical reasons or economic reasons. The latter refers to the economic speed and is based on fuel efficiency.

The economic speed of a ship is interesting, so we should have a closer look at the operational profile of the ships. For example, from the shipowners' perspective, it can be more attractive to lower the speed when the fuel price gets higher (Wen et al., [2017\)](#page-90-4). So, the fuel consumption is reduced, and the operational expenses do not increase too much. Economic speed represents the speed that ensures the optimal balance between operational costs and revenue for the ship's operation.

It can also be eligible to sail faster than the design speed to avoid penalties for being late or providing special service by fast delivery. Higher speed implies a larger amount of fuel consumption, whereas it is also shorter transit time and a smaller number of ships required to deliver the same service (S. Wang and Meng, [2015](#page-90-5)). More bunker consumption results, in general, in higher operational expenses because fuel costs are a main element. In contrast, freight rates are responsible for shipowners' revenues.

However, speed reduction is an upcoming interest in terms of emission reduction. Lower speeds reduce the fuel consumption and, therefore, the emission of the ships (Lindstad and Eskeland, [2015\)](#page-88-10). This can be part of the solution for fuel tank volume challenges that arise from a transition to ammonia.

Correspondingly, the research of Kouzelis et al.([2022](#page-88-11)) analyses the impact of alternative fuels on economic speed. According to this research, lower sailing speeds are the result of the switch to alternative fuels in maritime shipping. The consequence is that more ships are required if ships operate at lower speeds, considering that the ship size remains constant. The downside of this is that the transit time of the ship will increase, and it can result in less sufficient service to the clients or lower freight rates. Sailing speed is taken into account in this research model.

3.1.3. Fuel consumption

In the prior subsection, the relation between speed and fuel consumption is already explained. Higher sailing speeds result in more fuel consumption. However, more fuel consumption does not necessarily imply an increase in the sailing speed because fuel consumption depends on more factors.

Speed and the frequency of rotation of the engine have the most effect on the fuel consumption per mile (Işıklı et al., [2020](#page-88-12)). Other factors that impact the fuel consumption are distance, draught, and cargo load. The draught and cargo load depend on the operational mode of the ship, laden or ballast. Işıklı et al.([2020\)](#page-88-12) also considers wind and sea waves as environmental effects on fuel consumption. To implement the environmental conditions of the trips, the ship's route must be known. The route of the ship is not determined as input data for the model because part of the problem is assigning the potential ammonia bunker ports. Therefore, it is not useful to implement these factors in the model. Besides, applying environmental factors to the model includes a large data set and probabilistic distributions, which complicates the model and increases the solving time. For this research, the relevance of the factors does not benefit compared to the complexity.

Fuel consumption has two approaches: the fuel consumption per mile and the total fuel consumption of a trip. The latter depends mainly on the sailing distance of the ship. If the required total fuel consumption of a trip is higher than the fuel capacity of the ship, the ship cannot complete the trip. This is a possible scenario, considering the energy density of ammonia, which results in large fuel volumes to provide the same energy content. Speed reduction can offer a solution to reduce fuel volume, which is elaborated in the subsection Speed.

The fuel consumption is directly related to the fuel costs of the ships. Fuel costs are a significant component of the shipowner's operational expenses. Therefore, it is indirectly related to the fuel price of ammonia. When the fuel price increases, it is more profitable to reduce the fuel consumption in order to manage the increase in fuel costs.

There are multiple concepts to collect fuel consumption data. Christodoulou and Cullinane([2022](#page-87-16)) applied the MRV database to their model. The MRV database monitors the fuel consumption per ship per year. Prussi et al., [2021](#page-89-14) compared the results of an MRV-based model with the results of the POTEnCIA model (JRC, [2019\)](#page-88-13) to derive more representative results for fuel consumption. Fuel consumption is taken into account in this research model.

3.1.4. Sailing Range

Following the strong correlation between fuel consumption and the sailing range of a ship, the sailing range represents an important performance parameter regarding ammonia as a marine fuel. The fuel consumption and the fuel tank volume of the ship define the ship's range. Considering the volume increase of the fuel tank in the ship design, the sailing range of the ship remains the same. This requires arrangements in the ship design.

An alternative to address the increase in fuel tank volume is to reduce the sailing range of the ship. As a result, the required amount of fuel decreases, which implies a smaller fuel tank is required. Shorter sailing routes are suggested to reduce the fuel consumption of the ship when fuel prices increase (Wen et al., [2017\)](#page-90-4). Therefore, this can be a method to obtain this effect. Regarding this measure, it is essential to consider the distance between ammonia supply bunker ports. The sailing range of the ship has to be larger than this distance, and otherwise, it is not feasible to operate with an ammonia-powered ship.

As the total fuel consumption appears to be an important parameter in relation to the sailing range, the fuel consumption per mile affects the sailing range as well. In parts Speed and Fuel Consumption, the relation between those parameters is elaborated. In combination with the relation between the sailing range and fuel consumption, this results in an indirect relation between the sailing range and the speed of the ship.

There is research considering the relation between fuel consumption and range (Lagemann et al., [2022;](#page-88-9) Lagemann et al., [2023\)](#page-88-14). The downside of this research is that it focuses on the required amount of fuel for a fixed range, which results in a large increase in the fuel capacity. However, concerning the ship design, limitations in the fuel tank volume can occur. Considering the limitation in the fuel tank volume of ships and including renewable fuels, like ammonia, further research is relevant to obtain an optimal balance between the fuel tank volume and the sailing range of the ship. The sailing range and reduction of trip distances through rerouting are taken into account in the model of this research.

3.1.5. Other performance parameters

Emissions

Recent research in the operational performance of ships applies the scope not only to the economic aspects of optimal ship performance but also to the environmental aspects. This results in a broad range of models that, besides minimalizing the costs, aim to maximize the emission reduction. Related to regulation as the EU ETS and levy for (carbon-)emissions, this is an important competency to include in the models.

Although ammonia is a zero-carbon fuel, there is no carbon emission during the operational stage. Ammonia still causes [NO](#page-8-2)*^x* emissions, and therefore emission fees can be considered. However, the impact of emissions will be less relevant. On the other hand, ammonia-powered ships can have a lower OPEX compared to low-carbon fuels because of this (Lindstad et al., [2015](#page-88-15)).

Especially regarding green and blue ammonia, the advantage of no carbon emission can be significant. Green and blue ammonia are produced with wind and solar energy; therefore, even the production process is carbon-free. As a result, the wake-to-tank (WTT) and the tank-to-wake (TTW) are carbonfree and avoid carbon taxes (Armijo and Philibert, [2020\)](#page-87-14).

This could suggest that the impact of emission reduction is not very relevant in the case of ammonia. However, this can be a significant difference when comparing the operational expenses of ammonia to the costs of ships powered by fossil or low-carbon fuels. Therefore, emission does not directly impact the performance of an ammonia-powered ship. However, it is recommended that this advantage be mentioned in terms of economic and environmental aspects in comparison to other fuels.

Ship deployment

The operational profile of a ship depends on the ship's deployment by the shipowner. The operational profile shows the different operational modes of the ship and the time it takes to complete the operation. Wu et al.([2022\)](#page-90-1) considered three operational modes in his research;

- 1. the transit mode, when the ship is sailing from destination A to destination B,
- 2. the in port mode, when the ship is at berth in port or anchorage and,
- 3. the manoeuvring mode, when the ship is manoeuvring in and out of the port.

With ship deployment, the shipowner manages the time the ship operates in each mode, referring to transit time, port time, and manoeuvring time. As discussed in the subsection Speed, the transit time depends on the sailing speed of the ship. The relation between these two parameters contains an increase in transit time for lower speeds. As a result, the time to complete a trip is longer, and therefore, the shipowner can assign the ship to fewer trips. To maintain the same service, more ships are required (Kouzelis et al., [2022\)](#page-88-11). Alternatively, changing the trip and route selection for the ship can be a solution. Regarding ammonia, the locations of the ammonia bunker ports will impact this consideration.

Considering that the time required to manoeuvre in and out of the port remains the same, increasing the transit time results in less time left in the port. When a ship is in port, the purpose of its stay differs, among others, from bunkering, cargo handling maintenance, or the ship is idle. Therefore, more transit time does not directly result in fewer trips. The extra time used in transit mode can be compromised with the time a ship is not deployed. This flattens the impact of speed reduction on the deployment of the ship. To define the relevance of this theory, more research on the distribution of transit time and in-port time is recommended. An analysis based on AIS data can provide a clear indication of this topic. Furthermore, the cargo capacity of the ship is related to ship deployment. The cargo capacity depends on the fuel tank capacity of the ship. In the case of ammonia, the fuel tank volume of the ship increases, and the cargo capacity decreases, assuming the ship size remains constant. In other words, the DWT capacity of the ship remains the same, as well as the total capacity of the fuel tank and the cargo. As a result, the transport service offered by the shipowner contains less cargo capacity. The shipowner can consider deploying more ships to continue the same service.

Operational cost of the ship

The maritime transport sector is a commercial industry. Therefore, costs and revenue are important parameters to the shipowners. This literature research is focused on the operational aspect of the shipping industry; thus, in this part, the costs regarding this are elaborate, in other terms, the operational expenses or [OPEX](#page-8-13). The [OPEX](#page-8-13) contain (Merien-Paul et al., [2019](#page-89-15);Gore et al., [2022](#page-88-16)):

- 1. bunker costs,
- 2. port fees,
- 3. emission fees (carbon tax),
- 4. cargo inventory costs,
- 5. crew salaries, and
- 6. maintenance expenses

The bunker costs influence the OPEX the most and depends on the fuel price of the bunker port (Lashgari et al., [2021\)](#page-88-17). Besides the shift from fossil fuels towards ammonia, no significant changes are assumed regarding the other five categories. In contrast, the ammonia bunker price is expected to be higher than the conservative fossil fuel (Prussi et al., [2021](#page-89-14)). This is without the adoption of potential emission fees. Wu et al. [\(2022](#page-90-1)) suggest the bunker price for green ammonia in 2030 is 700 USD/1000 kg and will decrease towards 580 USD/ 1000 kg in 2050. The fuel price for blue ammonia is estimated at 475 USD/ 1000 kg and remains constant between 2030 and 2050. Currently, there are no ammoniapowered ships in operation and ammonia as a large-scale marine fuel will be used from 2040 (Pruyn et al., [2022](#page-89-1)). The timeframe generates a large uncertainty regarding the estimation of the fuel price for ammonia.

Reducing the energy consumption of ships can be done by reducing the speed of the ship. Lindstad and Eskeland [\(2015\)](#page-88-10) present the potential of this theory for three scenarios: high fuel cost (900 USD per ton), moderate fuel cost (600 USD per ton) and low fuel cost (300 USD per ton). The performed speed optimization shows for all scenarios that the cost in USD per ton transported is minimal at a speed around 1.5-2 knots lower than the ballast speed. For high fuel costs, the effect of speed reduction is three times more than for the low fuel cost. Lowering the speed of the ship results in longer travel times, so Lindstad included cargo inventory cost in the speed optimization and took a fourth scenario to include the effect of $CO₂$ $CO₂$ emission fees of 100 USD per ton. This results in the optimal speed increasing back to the design speed in the case of the low and moderate fuel cost scenarios. For the high fuel cost and $CO₂$ $CO₂$ emission fees scenarios, the optimal speed increases as well, but it is still lower than the design speed.

The uncertainty related to fuel price is addressed in several distributions in prior research. Y. Wang et al. [\(2018](#page-90-6)) address the fuel prices by using distribution-free fuel prices based on fundamental descriptive statistic information, including the lower and upper bounds, means, and covariances. Whereas, Lagemann et al. [\(2023](#page-88-14)) choose to implement the fuel price as a stochastic distribution because of the fluctuation charter of fuel prices. Besides, fuel prices vary between bunker ports.

To determine the feasibility of an assigned trip, the shipowner prefers to estimate the OPEX and the revenue of the trip. The revenue depends on the freight rates of the transported cargo and the amount of cargo transported (Jensen and Ajspur, [2022](#page-88-18)). Therefore, the cargo capacity is a significant parameter in the ship design. The cargo capacity of an ammonia-powered ship becomes smaller due to the increase in the fuel tank volume. The consequence is that the revenue of the ship decreases compared to that of the HFO ship. When the revenue of the trip is lower than the OPEX of the ship, it is unlikely the shipowner decide to deploy the ship on the trip. This suggests the relevance of the correlation between the OPEX, net revenue, and ship design regarding ship performance.

3.1.6. Parameter Overview

Overall, there are direct and indirect relations between the factors mentioned above. Table [3.2](#page-26-1) provides an overview of the relations between the factors. The direct relations are indicated with an (x). For example, an increase in the fuel price results directly in higher OPEX. For an indirect relation, factor A affects factor B due to the effect of factor A on factor C, which is a between factor A and B, or there is a second circumstance required to obtain the relation between two factors. Indirect relations are indicated with a minus sign (-). The relations between the parameters are used to optimize the ship's performance and generate the optimal bunker strategy.

Table 3.2: Overview of direct (x) and indirect (-) impact of the design and performance parameters regarding the operational profile of a ship.

3.2. Ports and Supply network

To realize the transition from fossil fuels to ammonia, the shipping network will be affected in two ways. The implementation of ammonia will not only affect the ship design and performance arrangements alone; the supply of ammonia in bunker ports is also required. In this section, the impact of ammonia on bunkering strategies is elaborated.

The operational profile of the ship is significantly related to the bunker management of the shipowner. Performance parameters such as sailing range, ship deployment and fuel consumption are directly related to the distance between two bunker ports, the port time and fuel availability in a port. Therefore, this section determines the important parameters regarding bunkering strategies and the correlation between port choice decision-making and ship operation.

When developing a bunkering strategy, it is relevant to have a clear picture of the shipping network design. A shipping network consists of ports and shipping routes. Shipping networks can be regarded as hybrid hub-and-spoke networks (Ghane-Ezabadi and Vergara, [2016\)](#page-87-17). Therefore, the ship can sail directly from one port to the other port, and the ship is not required to visit all ports in the network. This literature research assumes a ship will only visit a port if the ship requires new bunker fuel. As a result, the cargo transported on the ship is loaded and unloaded in bunker ports. However, the shipowner has to consider which bunker ports are optimal regarding the operational profile of the ship.

Research developed port choice decision-making models to support the shipowner. Choosing an optimal bunkering port that minimizes the increase in the operating costs in a hub and spoke system is a [Multi-Criteria Decision-making \(MCDM\)](#page-7-15) problem (Tuljak-Suban, [2019\)](#page-89-16). Next to the fuel price, this [MCDM](#page-7-15) model considers the cargo on board and the port characteristics, including bunkering policy. The important [Key Performance Factorss \(KPFs\)](#page-7-16) considered in the research of Tuljak-Suban [\(2019](#page-89-16)) are:

- Bunker price
- Bunker quality
- Port time
- Safety of bunkering
- Fuel availability
- Efficiency of bunker supply
- Geographical advantage
- Port bunker fuel capacity
- Port tariffs

Comparing these [KPFs](#page-7-16) with the important operational parameters, one factor is not included in this list: the location of the port. Considering the challenge regarding the fuel capacity of the ship and the sailing range, the distance between two ports has a significant impact on the performance of the ship. Therefore, the port location and the distance to the next port should be included in the KPFs.

In this research, the port model is focused on the economic feasibility of providing ammonia bunker facilities. The scope of the research considers a homogeneous market. Therefore, no other fuel options are considered, and the level of the bunker facilities is equal in all ports. It is assumed that the technology is available to realize ammonia bunker facilities without further issues, and there are no capacity limits in the ports. The port tariffs are considered to remain the same for the transition to ammonia and, therefore, are not affected by the fuel switch. The [KPFs](#page-7-16) adopted in the Port model are the bunker price and geographical advantage.

Ammonia Bunker Supply Facilities

One of the [KPFs](#page-7-16) is the fuel availability; regarding ammonia, this is a significant criterion. Currently, ammonia is not implemented as a fuel in the maritime industry. Therefore, ports do not supply ammonia to a bunker fuel today. Nevertheless, ammonia is transported on a large scale as bulk. Worldwide, 88 ports are equipped with storage facilities for ammonia (Pruyn et al., [2022\)](#page-89-1). Therefore, the implementation of supply infrastructure for the port is present.

To evaluate the system performance of the bunker supply chain for ammonia bunkering, Yang and Lam developed a model which considers the supply and demand dynamics of ammonia bunkering (Yang and Lam, [2023](#page-90-2)). The simulation model studies the economic and operational aspects of the ammonia bunker supply chain, which is seen as a discrete event system. They compared marine fuel oil [MFO](#page-8-11) bunkering to pure ammonia bunkering and ammonia[-MFO](#page-8-11) dual fuel bunkering in their case study, looking at different numbers of supply vessels, capacity of the supply vessels and flow rates of ammonia bunkering. The model investigates three impact parameters: the number of ammonia bunker supply vessels, the capacity of ammonia bunker supply vessels and the ammonia bunkering flow rates. The latter has the most impact on the bunkering and bunker strategies of the ships. The annual operational cost of the bunker and supplier is most affected by the number of ammonia-powered ships. This is an important parameter for port operators to take into account when considering supplying ammonia as a bunker fuel for maritime shipping.

The ammonia production price is required to determine the bunker price of ammonia. This production price of green ammonia strongly depends on the price of the hydrogen, as this is a large substitute for ammonia. Salmon et al.([2021\)](#page-89-17) and Nayak-Luke and Bañares-Alcántara([2020\)](#page-89-11) established models to simulate the [Production Levelized Cost Of Ammonia \(PLCOA\)](#page-8-14) based on the production location and the local availability of green energy sources like wind and solar energy. The second study included a data set for the estimated [PLCOA](#page-8-14) for 534 locations in 70 countries in 2030. This data set is used as a

baseline for the ammonia bunker price calculation in the Port model. It applies as the main indicator of the [OPEX](#page-8-13) for the ammonia bunker port.

For bunker ports to be a part of the transition to ammonia, they have to invest in bunker facilities to supply ammonia. This contains an ammonia storage tank and an ammonia supply chain to provide the port with ammonia. There are two supply chain methods considered to be applicable for ammonia. Ammonia can be transported to the ports by ships, or a pipe system supplies the ammonia (Salmon et al., [2021\)](#page-89-17). Next to this, the size of the ammonia storage tanks define the [CAPEX](#page-7-17) of the ammonia bunker ports. *The First Wave* report for ETC([2020\)](#page-87-18) presents the expected [CAPEX](#page-7-17) for ports in transition to renewable energies, including ammonia. The report provides an indicant for the [CAPEX](#page-7-17) for three different sizes of storage tanks, as listed in table [3.3](#page-28-2). The calculation for the [CAPEX](#page-7-17) in the Port model is based on the results in this report. Besides, the [Energy Transitions Commission \(ETC\)](#page-7-18) suggests a discount of 50% on the [CAPEX](#page-7-17) for ports that are equipped with cargo facilities for ammonia.

3.3. Bunker Strategy Models

In section 3.1, the significant design and performance parameters are defined and the relations between the parameters are explained. Those relations are useful for optimization problems. For example, the optimal balance between the sailing range and the fuel tank volume on one side versus minimizing the OPEX and maximizing the revenue of the ship's performance. According to the author's knowledge, no published research considers these three aspects in an optimization problem regarding ammonia as a marine fuel. Nevertheless, extensive research has been done regarding the optimization of sailing speed and fuel consumption. Besides, recent research on this topic aims to reduce ship emissions. An effective measure to achieve that is reducing fuel consumption. This approach has shown similarities regarding the relations that arise in the prior subsection.

Mixed-Integer Programming (MIP)

Mixed-integer programming is a frequently used optimization method and can solve problems with continuous and discrete variables. The MIP models regularly apply a solver to complete the optimization (S. Wang et al., [2013](#page-90-7)). The solver is required to reduce the computational time of the model. MIP can be divided into two subcategories: mixed-integer linear programming (MILP) and mixed-integer nonlinear programming (MINLP).

The parameters explained in section 3.1 will be applied in the optimization model. Considering the relations, these will add nonlinear terms to the model. Therefore, the MINLP approach could be more suitable for this optimization problem. However, the efficiency of the MINLP model is lower than the MILP problem because of the complexity caused by the nonlinear constraints in MINLP models (S. Wang et al., [2013\)](#page-90-7). This results in long computations, which is not eligible for this research. The nonlinearity of the model does not prescribe that MILP cannot be applied in this research. MILP approaches consider nonlinear terms in the model. These nonlinear terms need to be transformed into linear terms before they can be implemented in the model.

Bunkering Strategy and Port Choice Decision Models

The models for bunkering strategies and port choice decisions published in the research show parallels with the optimization models. Decision-making problem models generally contain an optimization problem to find a balance between two or more main factors. Optimization models for shipping performance are mostly economical-driven. For example, the model is designed to optimize sailing speed and fuel consumption. To achieve this, a suboptimization is implemented to minimize operational expenses, including fuel costs (von Westarp and Brabänder, [2021](#page-90-8)). Other optimization models minimize emissions or service time or maximize the revenue of the ship (Wen et al., [2017\)](#page-90-4). This subsection elaborates

on two bunker port selection models for the bunkering strategy, including port selection, for published research.

Wang and Meng (2015) developed a mathematical model for the robust bunker management (RBM) problem in liner shipping networks (S. Wang and Meng, [2015\)](#page-90-5). The model first optimizes the joint speed and bunkering for the liner shipping network and considers the difference between the planned sailing time and real sailing time. At first, the RBM model was very complex due to many nonlinear terms and both continuous and discrete decision variables. To overcome the complexity and improve the usability, the model was transformed into a mixed-integer linear programming (MILP) formulation.

Ursavas et al.([2020](#page-89-18)) also developed a MIP model regarding bunker port selection. Therefore, it can be concluded that bunker management and port selection problems can be solved with the MIP approach. Reflecting on the research review in the literature research, an MIP approach is most suitable for this research. The research of Ursavas et al. [\(2020](#page-89-18)) provides a model for inland waterway bunkering of LNG. This mixed integer programming model shows the dynamics between ports regarding bunkering port selection. Events or changes in one port affect the demand in other ports and how this influences bunkering strategies.

3.4. Conclusion

The models that are described in this chapter mainly aim to optimize the bunker strategy of the ships, which matches the objective of the model that will be developed in this research. However, there are a number of differences between the models in this research. Firstly, the reference models are not developed for an ammonia-powered shipping network, resulting in different constraints regarding the fuel used. Secondly, these models consider the port bunker prices to be independent of the demand resulting from the bunker patterns of the participating ships. Besides, none of the models is performed for a worldwide fleet of over 1000 ships. Lastly, the model to develop in this research does not have a fixed route and gives the possibility to reroute to suggest a more suitable route.

In order to identify the impact of ammonia on the significant ship parameters, fuel tank volume, sailing speed and sailing range, a model is developed as an [Ammonia Bunker Strategy Optimization model \(BS](#page-7-19) [model\).](#page-7-19) A second model is added to implement as the [Ammonia Bunker Port model \(Port model\).](#page-8-15) This model handles the non-linearly in the ammonia bunker price estimation. In figure [3.1,](#page-30-0) the research approach is illustrated, including the structure between the data collection, the models and the final results.

Figure 3.1: Overview of the research structure

4

Ammonia Powered Shipping Network Model

This chapter describes the [Ammonia Powered Shipping Network model \(APSN model\)](#page-7-20) model developed to quantify the operational impact of ammonia on the design and performance of the ships and the bunker port network. The structure of [APSN model](#page-7-20) is demonstrated in the figure [4.1](#page-31-2). The green boxes represent the two sub-models, the [BS model](#page-7-19) and the [Port model.](#page-8-15) The [BS model](#page-7-19) is the main model of the [APSN model](#page-7-20) and includes two extension modules. The implementation of this model is explained in section 4.1. The [BS model](#page-7-19) is formulated as a [mixed-integer linear programming \(MILP\)](#page-8-16) model to simulate the bunkering pattern of ammonia-powered ships in a global shipping network, as elaborated in section 4.2. The [MILP](#page-8-16) is developed with extended modules for rerouting and the bunker strategy. These modules are elaborated in section 4.2. Finally, the port model is applied to address the non-linearity of the ammonia bunker price implementation to the shipping network, as described in section 4.3.

Figure 4.1: The framework of the Ammonia Powered Shipping Network model developed in this report.

In figure [4.1,](#page-31-2) the coherence of the [BS model](#page-7-19) and the Port model is visualized. The [BS model](#page-7-19) and the [Port model](#page-8-15) cooperate to generate market dynamics for the supply and demand of ammonia. The [APSN model](#page-7-20) assumes that the ships are dominant to the port due to the fixed set of ports they have to visit. Firstly, the [BS model](#page-7-19) optimizes the bunker strategy for each ship individually. This results in a route containing the assigned ports, including the chosen bunker ports for the ship. The bunker strategies of the total fleet generate the ammonia demand for each port based on the route assigned to the ships. Next, the [Port model](#page-8-15) estimates the ammonia bunker price of each port based on the demand output of the [BS model](#page-7-19) and the [CAPEX](#page-7-17) and [OPEX](#page-8-13) to expand the port with ammonia bunker facilities. The new ammonia bunker prices will be used as new input data to improve the [BS model](#page-7-19). These steps are repeated until a balance in the output is found. The balance is approved when the difference in the output data between two iterations is minimal or the results switch between the same values. The reviewed output includes the improved fuel tank capacity, the related maximum range and the new route for the ships. For the Port model, the output contains the final ammonia bunker price and demand in each port. The output of the model is shown in the red boxes in figure [4.1](#page-31-2).

The blue squares represent the input data of the models. In chapter 5, the process to generate suitable input data for the models is elaborated. The input data creates the structure of the bunker network, including the selected ships, their design and performance specifications, the ports, their location and facilities. The parameters following from that data are referred to as the input parameters in figure [4.1](#page-31-2).

4.1. Ammonia Bunker Strategy Optimization Model

An ammonia bunker strategy optimization is developed to indicate the balance between the size of the ship's fuel tank and the maximum sailing range, considering the influence of the sailing speed. This balance depends on the fuel consumption and the bunker strategy of the ship. The goal of the model is to indicate the impact of ammonia on the three parameters. The fuel consumption is linear to the fuel costs of the ship, which is assumed as the dominant factor for the [OPEX](#page-8-13) of the ship. Next to this, the size of the fuel tank is related to the cargo capacity of the ship, which defines the income of the ship. Therefore, the indication of the impact of ammonia on the ship is developed to minimize the loss of revenue per year. The model considers that the revenue of the ship (*R*) is equal to the cargo income (*I*) minus the fuel costs (*C*). The optimization of the loss of revenue is formulated as a [MILP](#page-8-16) model, as suggested in Chapter [3](#page-21-0) and is described in section [4.2](#page-35-0).

Figure 4.2: The structure of the ammonia bunker strategy optimization model representing the reroute module and the bunker strategy model.

In addition to the bunker strategy optimization, an extended module is developed to ensure that the ship is capable of performing its original trips. This module is referred to as the rerouting module. The rerouting module provides the most profitable alternative route between two ports if the range of the ship is smaller than the distance between the ports. The sub-ports in the alternative route are added to the original route, resulting in the new route. The new route is applied in the bunker strategy module. The relation between the rerouting module and the bunker strategy optimization is displayed in figure [4.2](#page-32-2). The rerouting module is described in more detail later in this section.

In this research, the [APSN model](#page-7-20) is used to investigate the impact of a switch to ammonia on the design and performance parameters of the ships with ten scenarios. These scenarios have two different bunker strategies: trip bunkering and forward bunkering. The bunker strategy model is applied to both bunker strategy approaches: trip bunkering and forward bunkering. The bunker strategy determines whether to bunker in a port on the route. For both approaches, it is assumed that the ship has to bunker at least the amount of fuel required for the first trip and the fuel margin of 10% of the fuel tank capacity. The fuel margin is the extra fuel present in the fuel tank for unforeseen events.

Trip bunkering

Trip bunkering assumes that the ship always bunkers the amount of ammonia required for the trip in the departure port related to the trip. During the trip, the fuel tank only contains the fuel required for that trip and the fuel margin. Figure [4.3](#page-33-1) depicts a hypothetical illustration of the flow of the fuel level in the bunker tank is depicted. The red dots represent the ports where the ship bunkers. Considering this bunker strategy, a reduction of the fuel capacity of the ship will not cause significant challenges because the fuel level is not higher than 50%.

However, this approach limits the freedom of bunker port choice, and therefore, the shipowner has to bunker in each port on the route, even when the bunker price at the port is substantially high. This can result in higher fuel costs, and therefore, the revenue will decrease.

Figure 4.3: A hypothetical illustration of the flow of the fuel level in the fuel tank of the ship, considering the trip bunkering approach.

Forward bunkering

The forward bunkering approach assumes that the ship bunkers the amount of ammonia required to perform the bunker strategy to minimize the total annual bunker expenses. The bunker port selection is based on the maximum fuel capacity and the ammonia bunker price in the port, including the shipping route. The model limited the set of ports contained in the determined route after the reroute module and could not deviate from this route to minimize costs even more. However, the rerouting model is based on the shortest path theory and is modelled to find the cheapest alternative route between the two ports. Therefore, it can be assumed that the route after rerouting is the cheapest.

In each port, the model examines which port with its range has the lowest bunker price for ammonia. If a port within the range of the ship supplies ammonia for a lower price than the current port, the ship will bunker the amount of ammonia to reach the cheaper port. This is the next bunker port for the ship. However, if there is no cheaper port within the range of the ship, the ship bunkers the amount of ammonia needed to fill up the fuel tank. In this case, the next bunker port is the port with the lower ammonia bunker price after the current port. When the ship arrives in the next bunker port, the consideration is applied again. Figure [4.4](#page-34-2) depicts a hypothetical illustration of the flow of the fuel level

in the fuel tank of the ship considering this approach. The red dots mark the bunker ports of the route, and the blue dots are ports with only cargo handling.

Figure 4.4: A hypothetical illustration of the flow of the fuel level in the fuel tank of the ship, considering the forward bunkering approach.

The figure shows that the fuel capacity of the ships is used more optimally with the forward bunker strategy compared to the trip bunker strategy. Besides, the forward bunker strategy provides the possibility of avoiding ports with high ammonia bunker prices. This suggests that a larger fuel tank results in lower fuel costs and, therefore, higher revenue. However, a larger fuel tank reduces the cargo capacity of the ship and, thus, the cargo income. The [BS model](#page-7-19) proposes the optimal balance between these two parameters. To ensure that the ship does not bunker more fuel than required for the total trips, the total bunker amount of ammonia in the forward bunkering module should be equal to the amount of ammonia bunker in the trip bunkering approach.

4.1.1. Rerouting module

This section describes the implementation of the rerouting module. Before the [Ammonia Bunker Start](#page-7-21)[egy Model \(BS-model\)](#page-7-21) minimizes the loss in annual revenue of the ships, the rerouting module is applied. The rerouting module tests if the ship can complete the assigned trips in the ship's route. The sailing range (*r*) of the ship has to be larger than the distance between the start port *hk* and the end port *hk+1* to satisfy the feasibility test. The ship's sailing range depends on the fuel tank capacity and fuel consumption. The maximum fuel tank capacity is assumed to be 90% of the ship's fuel tank volume (V^T) . The fuel consumption is calculated based on the formula [4.5](#page-37-1) in chapter [5.](#page-41-0) The fuel consumption is determined by the sailing speed (v_s) and the ship's draught during the trip. The decision variables, *V ^T* and *vs*, are based on the performed scenario. Considering the assigned route of the ship, the reroute module decides if rerouting is required. When the range of the ship is more extensive or equal to the distance between the start and end port $(r > d_{hk,hk+1})$, the ship can complete the assigned trip. In this case, rerouting is not required, and the ship will sail straight from port *hk* to port *hk+1*. However, when the sailing range of the ship is smaller than the distance between the start and end port of the trip ($r < d_{hk,hk+1}$), the rerouting process begins.

The rerouting module considers all alternative routes within the ship's sailing range between the start port and the end port of the trip. It is based on the shortest path optimization and *Dijkstra's algorithm* (Aardal et al., [2020\)](#page-87-19). The rerouting module is developed using the networkx module in Python. The shortest path is formulated as the route with the lowest fuel costs. The fuel costs of the alternative routes are estimated by multiplying the fuel consumption of the sub-trip by the ammonia fuel price at the start port. The fuel consumption of the sub-trips is equal to the trip distance multiplied by [fuel consumption](#page-7-22) [per nautical miles \(fcm\)](#page-7-22) of the original trip. A port entry fee was introduced to avoid endless extra subtrips. To ensure it is not preferable to visit more ports than needed, the port entry fee is applied as the large number M. The output of the rerouting module is a set of ports to cover the trip distance, starting with the start port *k*, followed by the sub port and finally the end port *k+1* of the original trip. The extra ports are added to the ship's route and are included in the [rest] of the model.

In figure [4.5](#page-35-3), the implementation of the rerouting sub-model is demonstrated. Here, the solid blue circles refer to ports in the original route (P_1) , and the smaller empty circles are the added sub ports after rerouting (' $P_{1.1}$,' $P_{1.2}$,' $P_{3.1}$). In this example, the trips $P_1 = P_2$ and $P_3 = P_4$ have to cover a distance without their maximum sailing range, and therefore the ship has to divert to an alternative route. As figure [4.5](#page-35-3) implies, the ship can visit more than one extra port between the trip's start and end port when required, or it results in the cheapest alternative route.

Figure 4.5: The visualization of the application of the rerouting module.

Due to the implementation of the shortest path method, it is assumed that the output of the rerouting sub-model is the best alternative route for the ship in the applied scenario. Therefore, it cooperates with the main objective of the ammonia bunker strategy model to minimize the loss of ship annual revenue.

4.2. Bunker Strategy Model

4.2.1. Notations

The [BS model](#page-7-19) minimizes the loss in revenue for a set of 1025 ships (*S*), and the optimization is applied for each ship individually. The ammonia shipping network includes a set of 644 ports (*H*). The ships are assigned to complete a route based on the port calls for the [Automatic Identification System \(AIS\)](#page-7-23) data. This results in a subset of trips that the ship has to perform (*Ks*). Each trip has a departure port (hk) and an arrival port $(hk + 1)$, which correspond to a port in the ammonia shipping network. Each ship transported a specific cargo (*G*) with different freight rates and densities. The sets, variables, and parameters used in the [BS model](#page-7-19) are presented in tables [4.1](#page-35-4), [4.3](#page-36-2), [4.2](#page-35-5) and [4.4.](#page-36-3)

Table 4.3: Notations of dependent variables

Table 4.4: Notations of parameters

4.2.2. Economic Objective Function

The Ammonia Bunker Strategy Optimization model is a [MILP](#page-8-0) model. The [BS model](#page-7-0) optimization is based on the [OPEX](#page-8-1) and incomes due to the transported cargo. The [OPEX](#page-8-1) considered in this model is limited to the fuel costs of the ship, assuming the other variable costs of the ship are not significantly affected by a fuel switch towards ammonia. The objective function of the [BS model](#page-7-0) is formulated in equation [4.1.](#page-37-0) This function minimizes the shipowner's annual revenue loss compared to the revenue

calculated for the baseline scenario S0A (*RS*0*A*). The revenue for ammonia-powered ships is the difference between the income from the transported cargo and the fuel costs. The cargo income is estimated with the freight rate (FR_g) and the transported cargo volume (V^C_k). The fuel costs are calculated with the bunker price of the ports (p_h) and the amount of fuel bunkered in the port $(Q_{hk}^{ref}).$

$$
min\left[R_s^{SOA} - \sum \left[FR_g * V_k^C * x_{ks} - \sum (Q_{hk,i}^B * p_{hk} * y_{hks})\right]\right]
$$
\n(4.1)

The annual revenue of the reference scenario S0A (*RS*0*A*) is calculated in scenario S0A and refers to the ships powered by fuel oil. The freight rates (*F Rg*) of the several cargo types and the base bunker prices for ammonia in each port (*ph,*0) are estimated in section [5.3](#page-49-1). After the first iteration, the bunker price for ammonia in each port is estimated in the port model and used as input for the [BS](#page-7-0) [model.](#page-7-0) The amount of ammonia bunkered in the port (Q_{hk}^{ref}) depends on the approach of the bunker strategy. The trip bunkering strategy is that the ship only bunkers the ammonia required to have enough fuel onboard to complete the upcoming trip ($\sum (Q_k^{req})_1$). The forward bunkering strategy ensures that the ship bunkers the amount of ammonia required to minimize the total annual fuel costs ($\sum (Q_k^{req})_2$). Besides, the amount of ammonia onboard the ship always has to be the sum of the least amount of fuel required to complete the upcoming trip and the fuel reserve of the ship (Q_{s}^{res}). The fuel reserve of the ship is equal to 10 % of the fuel tank capacity of the ship.

$$
Q_{hk,i}^B = \sum (Q_k^{req})_i - Q_{hk}^{rem}
$$
\n(4.2)

$$
Q_k^{req} = FC_{ks}(v_k, T_k) + Q_s^{res}(V^T)
$$
\n(4.3)

$$
Q_{hk}^{rem} = Q_{hk-1}^T - FC_{k-1,s}(v_{k-1}, T_{k-1})
$$
\n(4.4)

$$
FC_{ks}(v_k, T_k) = \left(\frac{k_1 * T_k^{2/3} * v_k^3}{v_k} + \frac{P_s^{AUX, non-PP}}{v_k}\right) * d_{hk,hk+1}
$$
(4.5)

4.2.3. Constraints

The objective function is subject to constraints regarding the bunker and fuel tank volume([4.6](#page-37-1) - [4.8](#page-37-2)), the weight and space of the ship [\(4.9](#page-37-3) - [4.15](#page-38-0)) and the range of the ship([4.16](#page-38-1) and [4.17\)](#page-38-2).

Constraint [4.6](#page-37-1) ensures that the amount of fuel in the fuel tank is always equal to or larger than the amount of fuel required to complete the next trip. Constraint [4.7](#page-37-4) defines the amount of fuel onboard the ship when leaving the start port, and constraint [4.8](#page-37-2) ensures that the volume of the amount of fuel onboard cannot be larger than the volume of the fuel tank of the ship.

$$
Q_{max}^T \ge Q_{hk}^T \tag{4.6}
$$

$$
Q_{hk}^T = Q_{hk}^B + Q_{hk}^{rem}
$$
\n
$$
(4.7)
$$

$$
Q_{max}^T = V^T * \rho_{NH_3,con}
$$
\n(4.8)

Constraint [4.9](#page-37-3) defines the transported cargo weight during the trip based on the cargo volume and related cargo density. Constraints [4.10](#page-37-5) and [4.11](#page-37-6) define the total weight of the variable weight components and ensure that it cannot be larger than the ship's deadweight tonnage.

$$
m_k^C = V_k^C * \rho_g^C \tag{4.9}
$$

$$
dwt_k = m_k^C + Q_k^T + m_s^{rest}
$$
\n
$$
\tag{4.10}
$$

$$
dwt_k \leq dw t_s^0 \tag{4.11}
$$

Constraint [4.12](#page-38-3) imposes the maximum cargo volume the ship can carry according to the increase in the fuel tank volume, and constraint [4.13](#page-38-4) states the cargo volume transported during the trip. Constraints [4.14](#page-38-5) and [4.15](#page-38-0) define the total volume of the variable space components in the ship, and this cannot be larger than the available volume in the ship.

$$
V_{max}^C = (V_0^C + V_0^T) - V^T
$$
\n(4.12)

$$
V_k^C = min(V_{k,0}^C, V_{max}^C)
$$
\n(4.13)

$$
V_k^{TOT} = V_k^C + V^T + V_s^{rest}
$$
\n
$$
\tag{4.14}
$$

$$
V_k^{TOT} \le V_0^{TOT} \tag{4.15}
$$

Constraint [4.17](#page-38-2) ensures that the ship cannot perform a trip with a distance that is larger than the range of the ship allows. The range of the ship is defined by constraint [4.16](#page-38-1).

$$
r_k s = \frac{0.9 * V^T}{f cm_{ks}(v_k, T_k)}
$$
(4.16)

$$
d_{hk,hk+1} \leq r_k s \tag{4.17}
$$

4.3. Port Model

The [Port model](#page-8-2) is the second part of the ammonia-powered shipping network model and was developed to solve the non-linear character of the bunker prices. This results in a linear approach for the ammonia bunker price that is implemented in the [BS model](#page-7-0). The [Port model](#page-8-2) model aims to estimate the ammonia bunker price in the ports based on the demand resulting from the [BS model](#page-7-0). The demand determines the [OPEX](#page-8-1) and the [CAPEX](#page-7-1) of ammonia bunker facilities in ports. In this section, the structure of the [Port](#page-8-2) [model](#page-8-2) is elaborated, and the considerations are explained. The data applied in the [Port model](#page-8-2) based on the results of the [PLCOA](#page-8-3) and [Delivered Levelized Cost Of Ammonia \(DLCOA\)](#page-7-2) estimations from Salmon et al. [\(2021](#page-89-0)) and Nayak-Luke and Bañares-Alcántara([2020\)](#page-89-1) and the data for the parameters included in the [CAPEX](#page-7-1) calculation are established from *The First Wave* report (ETC, [2020\)](#page-87-0). Besides the expenditure components, the [Port model](#page-8-2) requires a demand input for each port.

Figure [4.6](#page-38-6) shows the structure of the port model and the considered costs to estimate the [OPEX](#page-8-1) and the [CAPEX](#page-7-1) of the ammonia bunker facilities in the ports. The estimated ammonia bunker price is used for the next iteration of the [BS model](#page-7-0).

Figure 4.6: Illustration of the port model structure.

To avoid errors in the model for ports with very low annual ammonia demands, the minimum demand of a port is set to 200 tonnes of ammonia. This extension is included in the model to maintain all selected ports available in the shipping network. Otherwise, the ports with a demand lower than 200 tonnes of ammonia are cancelled out and will not be reconsidered in the next iteration. The model does not consider the limitation of the bunker price estimation.

Table 4.5: Notations of parameters

The demand output data of the [BS model](#page-7-0) of all ships is translated to the annual demand in each port by the sum of the ammonia demands related to the port. Equation [4.18](#page-39-0) gives a prediction of the ammonia demand in each port. Based on the demand in the port, the number of storage tanks required (*nh*) is defined.

$$
Q_h^{an} = \sum_S (\sum_K (Q_{hk}^B))_s
$$
 (4.18)

$$
n_h = \frac{Q_h^{an}}{P_h^{an}} \tag{4.19}
$$

The [Port model](#page-8-2) is simulated based on the equations [4.20](#page-39-1) to [4.19,](#page-39-2) and the adopted parameters are explained in table [4.5.](#page-39-3) First, the [CAPEX](#page-7-1) of the ammonia bunker facilities to supply the required demand is estimated with equation [4.20.](#page-39-1) The [CAPEX](#page-7-1) of the port depends on the costs for the realization of the storage tanks and the supply chain. The discount rate considered in this research is 5%, and it is assumed that the return on investment time is 30 years. For the ports which are already equipped with existing ammonia cargo facilities, a discount of 50% for the storage tanks is added to the equation.

$$
CAPEXh = \frac{Chstorage * (nh - uh * 0.5) + Chsupplychain (1+r)a
$$
 (4.20)

The [OPEX](#page-8-1) in the Port model is formulated as the sum of the production costs and transportation costs multiplied by the demand in the port. Next to this, the energy costs of the storage tanks, based on running hours per year, are added to equation [4.21](#page-39-4). The transportation costs depend on the transportation mode for ammonia to the port, which is determined in section 5.4.

$$
OPEX_h = (c_h^{prod} + c_h^{trans}) \cdot Q_h^{an} + C^{run} \cdot n_r
$$
\n
$$
(4.21)
$$

Finally, the new ammonia bunker price is calculated in equation [4.21.](#page-39-4) This is the sum of the [CAPEX](#page-7-1) and the [OPEX](#page-8-1) divided by the annual demand of the port.

$$
p_h^{new} = \frac{CAPEX_h + OPEX_h}{Q_h^{an}} \tag{4.22}
$$

In this approach, the [CAPEX](#page-7-1) and the [OPEX](#page-8-1) are both related to the demand for ammonia. To illustrate this relation, figure [4.7](#page-40-0) depicts the ammonia bunker price as a function of the ammonia demand for the Port of Rotterdam. Besides, the figure includes the trend of the [CAPEX](#page-7-1) and the [OPEX](#page-8-1).

Figure 4.7: Illustration of th[eCAPEX](#page-7-1) (green), the [OPEX](#page-8-1) (orange) and the ammonia bunker price (blue) as a function of annual demand in the Port of Rotterdam is used as an example.

5

Input Data

The two models formulated in chapters [4](#page-31-0) and [4.3](#page-38-7) require a set of parameters representing the ship design, operation, and network characteristics to generate results to indicate the impact of ammonia on the operational performance of the shipping network. In this chapter, the required data for the model is collected and processed to create a suitable dataset for the [BS model](#page-7-0) and the port model. The ship data is mainly obtained from the Clarkson Research [World Fleet Register \(WFR\)](#page-8-4) in combination with the database of [The Hybrid European Targeting and Inspection System for Monitoring, Reporting,](#page-8-5) [and Verification \(THETIS-MRV\)](#page-8-5) (Clarkosn Research, [2023b](#page-87-1) and EMSA, [2023\)](#page-87-2). In section [5.2](#page-43-0), a list of obtained parameters for these databases is summarized, followed by an elaboration of the data processing. The trip data is based on [AIS](#page-7-3) port call data and is requested from MarineTraffic.com (MarineTraffic, [2023](#page-89-2)). An overview of parameters obtained from the [AIS](#page-7-3) data is presented in section [5.3](#page-49-1). This section elaborates on the process of transforming the raw data into suitable data for the models. In section [5.4,](#page-54-0) the obtained network data and processing process is provided. This port data is accessed for the database [World Port Index \(WPI\)](#page-8-6) (Maritime Safety Office, [2019](#page-89-3)) and complemented with port data from MarineTraffic.com (MarineTraffic, [2023\)](#page-89-2). Based on port data, the network data is complemented with distance estimation performed with the searoute toolkit in Python (Halili, [2023\)](#page-88-0). The freight rates data for Clarkson Research [Shipping Intelegence Network \(SIN\)](#page-8-7) is used to estimate the freight rates applied in the model (Clarkosn Research, [2023a\)](#page-87-3).

Besides the ship, trip and network data, the models require data regarding fuel characteristics and ammonia bunker price to provide the economic aspect of the research. The fuel characteristics are adapted from the master thesis from Snaathorst([2022\)](#page-89-4), and the monetary parameters for the ammonia bunker price are obtained in the literature research. The considered data for fuel and monetary parameters is summarized in section [5.4](#page-54-0) as suitable input data for the [BS model](#page-7-0) and [Port model](#page-8-2).

5.1. Ship selection

The goal of the case study is to create a realistic case for an ammonia-powered shipping network. The focus of the research is to address the feasibility of a bunker port network for ammonia, as well as the impact on the operational profile of the ships. Therefore, the case study is performed based on the ship data of a fleet of more than 1000 ships collected for the Clarkson World Fleet Register (WFR) (Clarkosn Research, [2023b](#page-87-1)). To obtain a suitable selection of the ships, four requirements are established based on the model requirements and the scope of this research. In this section, the requirements are elaborated, resulting in the final ship collection. The ships in the ship collection are characterised by their fleet type. The complete selection contains five fleet types.

5.1.1. Ship Requirments

The ships in the selection have to be seagoing ships in operation in 2022, future-proof, and Europeoriented.

Seagoing Ships

According to Pruyn et al.([2022\)](#page-89-5), ammonia will be used for seagoing ships larger than 25000 dwt and trips of multiple days. Therefore, the ships need to be at least 25000 dwt. However, considering the challenges regarding the increase in the fuel tanks and the decrease in the sailing range of the ships, it is required that the ships' routes include long distances because these have the largest influence on the limitation of the onboard fuel tank. Therefore, the minimum deadweight tonnage of the selected ships is 50,000 dwt.

Operation in 2022

The reference year of the case study is 2022, as elaborated in Chapter 2. For the selection of ships, the AIS port call data is requested from MarineTraffic.com. To ensure the data is useful for the research, the ships have to be in service during the year 2022, so ships that are idle or in dock in 2022 are filtered for the selection. Next to this, the ship should be built before 2022 to be able to operate during the reference year. This results in a selection of ships that are built in 2021 at the latest.

Future Proof

The lifetime of seagoing ships is 25 to 30 years. Following the reports of Scarbrough et al.([2022](#page-89-6)) and Pruyn et al.([2022\)](#page-89-5), ammonia will become a marine fuel on a large scale from 2040 and will enlarge its market share to 40% in 2050. Therefore, the choice is made to limit the ship selection to ships that are likely to be still in operation in those years, assuming these are ships built after 2014. Since these ships have recently been built, they are equipped with more innovative technology to reduce emissions than older ships. Besides, these are ships that have to deal with the regulations realised as a result of IMO's aim to reduce 80% of the GHG emissions by 2050 (International Maritime Organization, [2018\)](#page-88-1). Therefore, retrofitting to ammonia-fuelled ships could be a potential solution to comply with these regulations.

Europe-Oriented

The prior three requirements create a suitable set of ships for a realistic display of the global shipping network. However, this research is done in the context of the MAGPIE project, which is Europe-oriented. Therefore, it is eligible for the included ships to visit ports in Europe in 2022. To ensure this, the remaining ships, answering the prior requirements from the Clarkson WFR, are compared, based on their IMO numbers, to the MRV-THETIS data of 2022 (EMSA, [2023\)](#page-87-2). The MRV-THETIS data registers all ships that have visited a port with Member State (MS) jurisdiction, so all ships in this database operated in EU territory during 2022 (DNV.com, [2023\)](#page-87-4). All ships present in both databases compose the final ship selection consisting of 1026 ships meeting all four requirements. The names and IMO numbers of the ships included in the selection can be found in appendix [B](#page-96-0). In this appendix, some of the main parameters of the ships are also presented.

5.1.2. Five Ship Types

Following the ship requirements, the obtained ships are a broad selection of seagoing ships with a deadweight larger than 50000 dwt. The selection can be characterised into five different fleet types: 112 bulkers, 300 containerships, 313 crude tankers, 125 product tankers and 176 LNG carriers. The total fleet contains 1025 ships with a [DWT](#page-7-4) range from 79274 to 320785 tonnes. In table [5.2,](#page-43-1) the parameters are collected for each fleet type to understand the context of the ship selection. Besides the [DWT](#page-7-4) range, the average built year and the considered cargo type are included in the table. The total fleet represents a wide selection of ships operating worldwide, as shown in [5.1.](#page-43-2)

Table 5.2: Main identification parameters for each fleet type.

Figure 5.1: Represntation all trips in the shipping network considering in the research.

5.2. Ship data

The data collection starts with the ship data. Chapter [3](#page-21-0) elaborates on the significant design and performance parameters that are impacted by a fuel switch for fossil fuels towards ammonia and determine the performance of the ship. The required parameters for the models are collected for the Clarkson Research [WFR](#page-8-4) and [THETIS-MRV](#page-8-5) databases. In this section, the obtained data is translated to a suitable ship dataset. The required input parameters are calculated according to the general design and performance theories to complete the dataset. In table [5.3](#page-44-0), a list of all ship parameters is disclosed, including their definitions and sources.

Firstly, the weight and space parameters are achieved, followed by the calculations for the general

power and energy estimations of the ships. Next, the fuel consumption calculations are elaborated and translated into one formula that can be implemented in the [APSN model.](#page-7-5) Finally, the [THETIS-MRV](#page-8-5) database is used to provide reference data to validate the operational data for the [AIS](#page-7-3) dataset.

The Clarkson Research [WFR](#page-8-4) database did not include all parameters for all ships. Therefore, the missing data is estimated using linear regression based on the available data from the other ships. This applies to the parameters referring to the footnote in table [5.3.](#page-44-0)

Table 5.3: Ship design and performance parameters, units, definitions, and sources.

[∗] This data was not available for all ships, and therefore, the missing values are estimated with linear regression.

5.2.1. Volume and Mass

The fuel consumption depends on the volume displacement (*∇*) of the ship; this represents the underwater volume of the fully loaded ship and refers to the maximum draught of the ship. Firstly, the maximum total weight (*W*) of a ship is determined to obtain the volume displacement. The maximum total weight is the sum of the deadweight (*dwt*) and the lightweight tonnage (*lwt*), equation [5.1.](#page-45-2) The [DWT](#page-7-4) represents the weight-carrying capacity of the ship, including cargo, fuel, ballast water, fresh water and crew. The [lightweight tonnage \(LWT\)](#page-7-6) is the weight of the empty ship, representing the steel structure, machinery and outfitting of the ship.

$$
W = dwt + lwt \tag{5.1}
$$

According to Archimedes' law, the weight of the water displacement is equal to the total weight of the ship. This is called the mass displacement and is calculated by multiplying the volume displacement by the density of seawater (ρ_{sw}) of 1.025 t/m³.

$$
\nabla = \frac{W}{\rho_{sw}}\tag{5.2}
$$

The maximum volume displacement (*∇max*)is a function of the ship's length of the waterline (*Lwl*), the beam (*B*), maximum draught (*Tmax*) and the block coefficient (*CB*). The *Lwl* has to be estimated because this parameter is not included in the [WFR](#page-8-4) dataset. The length per pedicular is around 96% to 98% of the waterline length of the ship. Therefore, the average of 97% is applied in equation [5.3](#page-45-1) (Man Energy Solution, [2018\)](#page-88-2).

$$
L_{wl} = \frac{L_{pp}}{0.97}
$$
 (5.3)

Besides, the block coefficient is required to determine the volume displacement. The block coefficient is a constant representing the dimensionless ratio that provides information about the underwater volume of a ship's hull compared to a block with the same overall dimensions. The block coefficient is calculated with equation [5.4](#page-45-0).

$$
C_B = \frac{\nabla_{max}}{L_{wl} * B * T_{max}}\tag{5.4}
$$

The volume displacement is determined with equation [5.5](#page-45-3) and represents the maximum water displacement of the ship. For the ship, the length and beam dimensions are fixed, along with the block coefficient. However, the draught of the ship can fluctuate as a result of the loading conditions. Therefore, this equation is applicable to estimate the amount of loaded capacity of the ship, as demonstrated in equation [5.32](#page-53-0). Besides, the volume displacement affects the resistance of the ship and, therefore, the required brake power of the ship. This is elaborated further in the next subsection 5.2.2.

$$
\nabla = L_{wl} * B * T * C_B \tag{5.5}
$$

Furthermore, the Clarkson Research [WFR](#page-8-4) database provides the volumes of specific components related to the [DWT,](#page-7-4) including the fuel tank volume (V^T) , the cargo volume capacity (V^C) and the volume of the ballast tanks (V^B). These values are not provided for all ships in the database; for these ships, the missing volumes are approached by linear regression based on the gross tonnage (*GT*) of the ships. The ballast tanks, fresh water tanks and crew components of the [DWT](#page-7-4) are implemented as one parameter m_{rest} and represent the [DWT](#page-7-4) without the weight of the fuel tank (m^T) and the cargo weight (*m^C*) in equation [5.6.](#page-45-5) It is assumed that *mrest* is constant and will not change as a result of design changes for the fuel tank.

$$
dwt = m^C + m^T + m_{rest}
$$
\n(5.6)

The cargo capacity measurements depend on the cargo type of the ship. For bulk carriers, [LNG](#page-7-7) carriers, crude and product tankers, the cargo capacity is given in cubic meters, and a containership quantifies its cargo capacity in the amount of [Twenty-feet Equivalent Unit \(TEU\)](#page-8-8), see equation [5.7.](#page-45-6) The related densities define the weight of the volumes.

$$
1\,TEU = L \times B \times H = 6.1m \times 2.44m \times 2.59m\tag{5.7}
$$

This subsection provides the required parameters for the developed ammonia-powered shipping network. Table [5.4](#page-46-0) contains the average of main space and weight parameters for each fleet type.

Fleet Type	GT	DWT	$\rm \nabla$	L_{oa}	T_{max}	B	V^T	V^C
	Im^3	[t]	Im^3	[m]	[m]	[m]	Im^3	Im^3
Bulkers	93172	178507	199183	287	18	46	2696	194336
Containerships	161789	165021	209736	363	15	54	5862	$15931*$
Crude Tankers	93153	175515	198251	279	17	49	2108	187006
Product Tankers	63886	112960	130406	251	15	44	1490	125802
LNG Carriers	117284	92569	126980	295	12	47	3325	173370

Table 5.4: The average main volume and mass parameters for each fleet type.

∗ The volume cargo capacity of constainerships is measures in TEU.

5.2.2. Power and Energy Estimation

The total installed power of a ship consists of two components: the total installed main engine power (P_{ME}) and the total installed auxiliary power (P_{AUX}) . The main engine power refers to the propulsion system power required to propel the ship and depends on the brake power ($P_{B,ME}$). The brake power depends on the resistance of the ship, which is a function of the sailing speed. The total auxiliary power is the power required for the non-propulsion systems and services onboard the ship and is not directly related to the operational parameters of the ship. The Clarkson Research [WFR](#page-8-4) contains the total installed power of the main engine (P_{ME}) and auxiliary system (P_{AUX}). However, these values cannot be directly applied to the fuel consumption and need to be converted to the brake power.

Propulsion Power

It is assumed the ship is designed to operate at 80% of the [Maximum Continuous Rating \(MCR\)](#page-8-9) when sailing at design speed (v_0) . In this operation mode, the brake power of the main engine is equal to 80% of the total installed power of the main engine (P_{ME}). The delivered power at design speed ($P_{D,0}$) is calculated with equation [5.8](#page-46-1).

$$
P_{D,0}(v_0) = \frac{P_{B,ME}(v_0)}{\eta_{TRM}} = \frac{0.8 \times P_{ME}}{\eta_{TRM}}
$$
\n(5.8)

The transmission efficiency ($η_{TRM}$) represents the losses regarding the power conversion between the main engine and the total delivered power of the propellers and is a combination of the shaft efficiency (*ηS*) and the relative rotation efficiency (*ηR*). The shaft losses for ships are typically between 0.5 to 1 per cent, according to Klein-Woud and Stapersma [\(2002](#page-88-3)). In *Basic Principles of Ship Propulsion* by MAN Energy Solution, the shaft efficiency is suggested to be 0.99 for two-stroke engines. The ships selected for this research are mainly equipped with two-stroke engines; therefore, a shaft efficiency of 0.99 is applied. The relative rotation efficiency is normally generated from Holtrop & Mennen, a method to provide resistance characteristics and efficiency to predict the resistance of ships. The method has to be performed for each ship individually. Due to the large set of ships handled in the model, applying this method will be a time-consuming process. Besides, the difference in relative rotation efficiency will result in a significant difference in the output of the model. Therefore, the relative rotation efficiency of 0.98 is applied, as suggested by Man Energy Solution [\(2018](#page-88-2)). Multiply the shaft and relative rotation efficiencies result in a transmission efficiency of 0.97 and is applied in equation [5.8.](#page-46-1)

The delivered power (P_D) depends on the displacement (∇) and sailing speed (v_s) of the ship, as demonstrated in equation [5.9](#page-47-2). Besides these two parameters, the estimation is based on the specific delivered power coefficient (*CD*). The specific delivered power coefficient is calculated according to equation [5.10](#page-47-0) (Klein-Woud and Stapersma, [2002\)](#page-88-3), based on the design speed (v_0) and the volume displacement related to the maximum draught (*∇*(*Tmax*)). The relation between the volume displacement and the draught is stated in equation [5.5](#page-45-3).

$$
P_D = C_D * \rho_{sw} * \nabla (T_i)^{2/3} * v_s^3 \tag{5.9}
$$

$$
C_D = \frac{P_{D,0}(v_0)}{\rho_{sw} * \nabla (T_{max})^{2/3} * v_0^3}
$$
(5.10)

Assuming the draught is the only variable parameter in the volume displacement equation, a change in draught (*T*) impacts the delivered power of the ship. The other parameters in the displacement calculated do not change. Therefore, the actual delivered power estimation is transformed to a function depending on the change in draught and sailing speed; see equation [5.11](#page-47-3).

$$
P_D(v_s) = P_{D,0} * \frac{\rho_{sw} * \nabla (T)^{2/3} * v_s^3}{\rho_{sw} * \nabla (T_{max})^{2/3} * v_0^3}
$$

= $P_{D,0} * \frac{\rho_{sw} * (C_B * L_{wl} * B)^{2/3}}{\rho_{sw} * (C_B * L_{wl} * B)^{2/3}} * (\frac{T}{T_{max}})^{2/3} * (\frac{v_s}{v_0})^3$ (5.11)
= $P_{D,0} * (\frac{T}{T_{max}})^{2/3} * (\frac{v_s}{v_0})^3$

Consequently, the actual delivered power is converted to the required brake power (P_B) in equation [5.12](#page-47-4) with the transmission efficiency (*ηT RM*) as applied in equation [5.8](#page-46-1). In equation [5.13](#page-47-5), the main engine brake power is formulated as a function of the sailing speed and draught of the ship.

$$
P_{B,ME}(v_s) = \frac{P_D(v_s)}{\eta_{TRM}}
$$
\n
$$
\tag{5.12}
$$

$$
P_{B,ME}(v_s) = \frac{P_{D,0}}{\eta_{TRM}} * (\frac{T}{T_{max}})^{2/3} * (\frac{v_s}{v_0})^3
$$
(5.13)

It is recommended to include an [Engine Margin \(EM\)](#page-7-8) in the power estimation to assure a reserve in the installed power for an incidental increase in power demand due to higher sailing speed or extreme weather conditions. Typically, an engine margin of 10 - 15% is applied in equation [5.14](#page-47-1) (Man Energy Solution, [2018\)](#page-88-2) and results in the maximum continuous rated engine power (P_{MCR}). The maximum continuous rated engine power is, in general, smaller than the total installed main engine power (*PME*) of the ship. The engine margin can decrease in specific and temporary circumstances. However, these are exceptional situations, and therefore, it is not eligible to propose an operational profile with a higher brake power demand than the [EM](#page-7-8) of 15% allows.

$$
P_{MCR} = \frac{P_{B,ME}(v_s)}{1 - EM} \tag{5.14}
$$

Auxiliary Power

The total installed auxiliary power (P_{AUX}) is independent of the operational parameters like the sailing speed or displacement. It also runs when the ship is in anchorage or port. Considering the energy switch from fossil fuel oil towards ammonia, the total required auxiliary power will change due to the change in the power plant system. Therefore, the total auxiliary power is divided into two components: the auxiliary power for power plant users ($P_{AUX,PP}$) and the auxiliary power of non-power plant users (*PAUX,non−P P*) (Snaathorst, [2022](#page-89-4)), referring to equation [5.15](#page-47-6).

$$
P_{AUX, tot} = P_{AUX, PP} + P_{AUX, non-PP}
$$
\n
$$
(5.15)
$$

The power plant auxiliary power ($P_{AUX,PP}$) is a percentage of the main engine brake power, referring to the energy system used. According to Snaathorst [\(2022\)](#page-89-4), the power plant auxiliary power is 5% of the main engine brake power (*P PAUX*) for ships equipped with a diesel [Internal Combustion Engine](#page-7-9) [\(ICE\)](#page-7-9). For ammonia fuels ships with [Solid Oxide Fuel Cells \(SOFC\),](#page-8-10) *P PAUX* is 11% of the main engine brake power. The power plant auxiliary power is calculated according to equation [5.16.](#page-48-1)

$$
P_{AUX,pp} = P_{B,ME} * P P_{AUX} \tag{5.16}
$$

The non-power plant auxiliary power is the remaining part of the total auxiliary power, as calculated in equation [5.17](#page-48-0). The non-power plant systems and services remain the same when the ship switches the fuel system. Therefore, the non-power plant auxiliary power is based on the reference fuel system, which is fuel oil in this case $(PP_{AUX,FO})$.

$$
P_{AUX, non-PP} = P_{AUX} - P_{B, ME} * P_{AUX, FO}
$$
\n(5.17)

For ammonia-powered ships, the total auxiliary brake power is calculated according to equation [5.18](#page-48-2), where $NH₃$ refers to the ammonia [SOFC](#page-8-10) energy system.

$$
P_{B,AUX,NH_3} = P_{B,ME} * P_{AUX,NH_3} + P_{AUX,non-PP}
$$
\n(5.18)

Total Power

The total brake power of the ship is the sum of the main engine brake power and the total auxiliary brake power, as formulated in equation [5.19.](#page-48-3) The total brake power has two components. The first part is variable due to the main engine brake power (*PB,ME*), depending on the sailing speed (*vs*) and draught (*T*) of the ship, and the second part is fixed for the non-power plant auxiliary power of the ship (*PAUX,non−P P*).

$$
P_{B,tot} = P_{B,ME} + P_{B,AUX,NH_3} = P_{B,ME} * (1 + PP_{AUX,NH_3}) + P_{AUX,non-PP} \overline{Y}
$$
(5.19)

The deviation of these two components is relevant for the calculation of the fuel consumption in the next subsection. The first part of the equation depends on the performance parameters and fuel choice. The second part is independent of the performance parameters and is assumed to stay the same for all scenarios tested in this research.

Fuel Consumption

The fuel consumption (*F C*) follows from the total brake power of the ship. First, the specific fuel consumption (*sfc*) is determined to calculate the fuel consumption, according to equation [5.20.](#page-48-4) The specific fuel consumption is defined by the efficiency of the power plant (*ηpp*) and the [Liquified Heat Value](#page-7-10) [\(LHV\)](#page-7-10) of the applied fuel. The power plant efficiency for diesel [ICE](#page-7-9) and ammonia [SOFC](#page-8-10) power plant is 49.34% and 51.33%, respectively, according to Snaathorst([2022](#page-89-4)). The [LHV](#page-7-10) for [HFO](#page-7-11) is 40.50 MJ/kg and ammonia (NH₃) has an [LHV](#page-7-10) of 18.6 MJ/kg (Klein-Woud and Stapersma, [2002](#page-88-3) and IRENA, [2021\)](#page-88-4). The number 3.6 in equation [5.20](#page-48-4) represented the recalculation of energy in kilowatt-hours (kWh) to energy in joule (J) , 1 kWh = 3.6 MJ.

$$
sfc = \frac{3.6}{\eta_{pp} * LHV} \tag{5.20}
$$

According to equation [5.20,](#page-48-4) the specific fuel consumption for fuel oil is 0.180 kg/kWh and for ammonia, it is 0.377 kg/kWh. Thus, the specific fuel consumption for ammonia is more than two times higher compared to fuel oil. This equation only applies when engines are running on 50% MCR or higher. For operations below 50% MCR, the specific fuel consumption increases significantly because the engine becomes lower quickly (Klein-Woud and Stapersma, [2002](#page-88-3)).

In the BS model, the fuel consumption is calculated per trip, and therefore, the fuel consumption is calculated based on the fuel consumption per nautical mile (*fcm*). In equation [5.21](#page-49-4), the formula for

fcm is defined as a function of the total brake power and sailing speed (Klein-Woud and Stapersma, [2002\)](#page-88-3).

$$
fcm = \frac{sfc * P_{B, tot}}{v_s} \tag{5.21}
$$

During the trips, the sailing speed (*vs*) and the draught (*T*) of the ship differ, and thus fuel consumption per mile should be formulated as a function of these two parameters. By implementing equation [5.19](#page-48-3) into equation [5.21,](#page-49-4) $fcm(P_{BME})$ is a function of the main engine brake power in equation [5.22](#page-49-3).

$$
fcm(P_{B,ME}) = sfc * \frac{P_{B,ME} * (1 + PP_{AUX,NH_3}) + P_{AUX,non-PP}}{v_s}
$$
\n(5.22)

$$
fcm = sfc * (\frac{P_{D,0}}{\eta_{TRM}} * \frac{(1+PP_{AUX,NH_3})}{v_s} * (\frac{T}{T_{max}})^{2/3} * (\frac{v_s}{v_0})^3) + \frac{P_{AUX,non-PP}}{v_s}
$$
(5.23)

By integrating equation [5.13](#page-47-5) into equation [5.22](#page-49-3), the fuel consumption per nautical miles is a function of the sailing speed and draught of the ship during the trip; see equation [5.23.](#page-49-5) The formula for *fcm* is simplified in equation [5.24,](#page-49-2) where k_1 is a constant elaborated in equation [5.25.](#page-49-0)

$$
fcm(v_s, T) = \frac{k_1 * T^{2/3} * v_s^3}{v_s} + \frac{P_{AUX, non-PP}}{v_s}
$$
\n(5.24)

$$
k_1 = sfc * \frac{P_{D,0}}{\eta_{TRM}} * \frac{(1 + PP_{AUX, NH_3})}{T_{max}^{2/3} * v_0^3}
$$
(5.25)

This subsection provides the required parameters for the developed ammonia-powered shipping network. Table [5.5](#page-49-6) contains the average of main power and fuel consumption parameters for each fleet type. Next to that, the average annual [CO](#page-7-12) $_2$ emissions (X_{CO_2}) for each fleet type are included in the table. The $CO₂$ $CO₂$ emissions are estimated by multiplying the average $CO₂$ per nautical mile, reported in the [THETIS-MRV](#page-8-5) database, by the total sailed distance annually based on the trip data.

Fleet Type	v_0	P_{ME}	P_{AUX}	fcm(FO)	$fcm(NH_3)$	X_{CO_2}
	[kn]	IKWI	[KW]	[kg/nm]	[kg/nm]	$[t*10^3]$
Bulkers	14.8	16820	2887	131.6	244.9	22.2
Containerships	22	53688	15312	368.8	682.3	71.6
Crude Tankers	14 7	17923	3793	147.3	273	20.4
Product Tankers	14.3	14118	3078	132.3	245.9	19.1
LNG Carriers	18.7	31043	7971	260.2	482.3	52.2

Table 5.5: Average power and fuel consumption parameters for each fleet type.

The total fleet was responsible for 42.6 million tonnes of $CO₂$ $CO₂$ emissions in 2022, according to the registered average CO2 emissions per distance from [THETIS-MRV](#page-8-5) and the annual distance estimation of the [AIS](#page-7-3) data. This is around 5% of the total annual $CO₂$ $CO₂$ emissions by the total worldwide fleet.

5.3. Trip data

For the selected ships, the [AIS](#page-7-3) history port calls of 2022 are requested from Marine Traffic. This data is used to construct the operational profile of the ships and consists of port and anchorage calls registered by the [AIS](#page-7-3). Each port or anchorage call is registered with a UTC timestamp, [United Nations Code of](#page-8-11) [Trade and Transport Locations \(UN/LOCODE\)](#page-8-11), facility type ('port' or 'anchorage'), move type ('arrival' or 'departure') and the minimum, maximum and current registered draught. In this section, the application of this data is elaborated and processed to become suitable data for the BS model. The parameters obtained and discussed in this section are assembled in table [5.6.](#page-50-0)

Parameter	Unit	Definition	Source
$d_{hk,hk+1}$	nm	Trip distance	Calculated with searoute
FC_{MRV}	t	Annual fuel consumption	THETIS-MRV
FR_q	$USD/(unit\cdot nm)$	Freight rate per nautical mile	Clarkson Research SIN
fcm_{MRV}	t	Average fuel consumption per nautical mile	THETIS-MRV
\boldsymbol{n}		Number of trips	Based on the AIS data
T_k	m	Draught during trip	Based on the AIS data
t_{hk}	UTC	Port arrival time	Based on the AIS data
$t_{a,anchor}$	UTC	Anchor arrival time	Based on the AIS data
$t_{anchor,k}$	h	Total anchorage time	Calculated in according to equation 5.27
t_{hk+1}	UTC	Port departure time	Based on the AIS data
$t_{d,anchor}$	UTC	Anchor departure time	Based on the AIS data
t_k	h	Trip duration	Calculated according to equation 5.26
t_{port}	h	Total time in port	Calculated according to equation 5.28
t_{sea}	h	Total time at sea	Section 5.3.3
$t_{s,MRV}$	h	Total hours at sea	THETIS-MRV
$t_{tot,anchor}$	h	Total anchorage time	Section 5.3.3
v_{MRV}	kn	Average sailing speed	Calculated according to equation 5.30
v_k	kn	Sailing speed	Calculated according to equation 5.29
V_k^C	m ³	Transported cargo of the trip	Calculated according to equation 5.32
W_k	t	Trip mass displacement	Calculated according to equation 5.31
ρ_g	kg/L	Cargo density	Based on Clarkson Research SIN

Table 5.6: Parameters obtained and based on historical port calls from Marine Traffic.

5.3.1. Route

The dataset from Marine Traffic contains a large set of port call data and is sorted in chronological order for each ship to create clear port call datasets. However, the dataset shows some distortions, as it appears to have double port calls registered and not all port calls are followed by the expected move type. This means that, for example, arrival port calls are followed by another arrival port call instead of a departure port call as expected. These errors are solved in the data process by examining the disturbing port call to be neglected or adding an extra fictional port call to the data. The consideration is based on the facility type and move type of the prior and later port call.

After the elimination of the distortions, the route assigned to the ship is defined as a set of the trips (*K*) resulting from the port call referring to the ship's name and [IMO](#page-7-13) number. In this research, a trip is defined as the departure port call followed by an arrival port call, and both port calls refer to the same ship. When an arrival port call does not follow a departure port call, or there is no departure port call prior to the arrival port call, the trip is not considered in the trip data. Each trip in the route has a departure port (*hk*) and an arrival port (*hk* + 1) and identifies the route of the ship in 2022. The sum of all trips in the route is the number of trips (*n*) of the ship.

5.3.2. Trip Distance

The trip distance $(d_{hk,hk+1})$ between the departure port and the arrival port is calculated with the searoute toolbox in Python (Halili, [2023\)](#page-88-0). This toolbox generates the route between two locations over the sea, and the locations are indicated based on their local coordinates. The route over sea follows a set of coordinates between the two ports, avoiding land and based on the shortest route principle. For the route, the distance is calculated using nautical miles. Before applying this method to the [AIS](#page-7-3) data set, the accuracy of the searoute toolbox is tested for ten common routes. The results conform to the estimated distances from other port distance calculation sources. In figure [5.2](#page-51-0), the distance calculation with searoute and the conservative great-circle route calculation are shown to demonstrate the difference.

Besides, the toolbox contains a feature for restrictions to avoid specific areas on the route, including the Panama and Suez Canal. These two canals have limited depth and width, and therefore, not all ships can pass these canals. The maximum permissible dimensions for the canals are disclosed in table [5.7](#page-51-1). Ships that have a wider beam or are sailing with a deeper draught than mentioned in this table have to use another, avoiding the canal. By adding the name of the canal, which has to be avoided, to the restrictions, the searoute toolbox will calculate a new route between the two ports. Besides these canals, the toolbox includes a restriction that ensures the route avoids the North West area, referring to the routes going through the Northside of Russia and Greenland. This feature is applied to all routes because it is assumed these routes are inaccessible to the selected fleet.

Figure 5.2: Example of the searoute distance (10580 nm) compared to the great circle distance (4834 nm) between Rotterdam Maasvlakte (NL) and Shanghai (CN)

The distance calculations from searoute perform plausible results that are similar to the real distance between the ports. However, there are two remarks to consider when applying the toolbox. Firstly, the distance calculated between two points is a straight line, and typically, ships do not sail in straight lines due to currents and weather conditions. Another reason to deviate from the shortest path is to avoid unreliable or unsafe areas. Especially for the routes crossing the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, a straight line across the ocean is not a realistic route. Therefore, this is an optimistic distance calculation, and the routes crossing large waters include an extra margin for the distance calculation.

The second remark is the application of the [AIS](#page-7-3) data The distance calculation is only based on the port calls provided in the [AIS](#page-7-3) dataset The anchorage calls are not included because the locations are not related to a specific UN/LOCODE, and therefore, the position of the anchorage cannot be defined However, a general observation of the [AIS](#page-7-3) data suggests that most of the anchorage calls refer to names that are similar to the nearby ports, which are the ports that are visited right before or after the anchorage call Therefore, it is assumed that neglecting the anchorage position in the distance calculation does not result in significant differences.

5.3.3. Trip Duration

The [AIS](#page-7-3) dataset from Marine Traffic provides a timestamp (UTC) for each registered port or anchorage call. These timestamps are used to determine the duration of the trips, anchorages, and stays in port in hours. The three duration types refer to the three operation modes this research considers: sailing (trip time), anchor (anchorage time) and in-port (port time). The trip time is defined as the time at sea between a port departure call (t_{hk}) and a port arrival call (t_{hk+1}) without the anchor time registered between the two port calls. This estimation is formulated in equation [5.26.](#page-52-1)

$$
t_k = (t_{hk+1} - t_{hk}) - t_{anchor,k}
$$
\n(5.26)

For the trips with anchorage calls within the port departure and arrival, the anchor time is calculated according to equation [5.27](#page-52-0). It occurs that a ship anchors more than once during the trip, and therefore, the anchor time during the trip (*tanchor,k*) is formulated as the sum of all anchor time within the port calls. In case there are no anchorage calls during the trip, the anchor time is assumed to be zero.

$$
t_{anchor,k} = \sum (t_{a,anchor} - t_{d,anchor})
$$
\n(5.27)

All the trip times over the year together are the total annual trip time of the ship and are also referred to as time at sea (*tsea*). The annual anchor time (*ttot,anchor*) is the sum of all trip anchor times added up. The annual port time is estimated as the remaining time of the year, as shown in equation [5.28.](#page-52-2) It is assumed that a year is equal to 8760 hours.

$$
t_{port} = 8760 - t_{sea} - t_{tot,anchor}
$$
\n
$$
(5.28)
$$

With the annual port time (*tport*), annual anchor time and time at sea, the deployment of the ship is determined.

5.3.4. Sailing Speed

The sailing speed of the ship has a significant impact on the ship's fuel consumption and differs during the ship's operations. The available [AIS](#page-7-3) data for this research includes the port and anchorage calls of the ships. However, more specific data regarding the sailing speed during the trip is not included in the dataset. Therefore, the sailing speed during a trip is assumed to be constant for the whole trip, and there is no distinction between sailing operation modes. The sailing speed applied to estimate the fuel consumption is the average sailing speed during the trip. The average sailing speed during the trip (*vk*) is approximated based on trip distance and the trip time calculated in equation [5.29](#page-52-4).

$$
v_k = \frac{d_{hk,hk+1}}{t_k} \tag{5.29}
$$

Due to errors in the [AIS](#page-7-3) dataset, there are trips registered with the same start and end port, which results in a trip distance of zero nautical miles. In these cases, there has not been an actual trip to perform for the ship, and therefore, these trips are excluded from the ship's trip data. The average sailing speed is estimated based on trips that remain in the trip data and thus are non-zero.

Next to that, the average sailing speed is estimated with the data registered b[yTHETIS-MRV](#page-8-5). The total distance is approached by dividing the total annual fuel consumption (*F CMRV*) in tonnes by the fuel consumption per nautical mile in kg/nm. Then, the distance is divided by the total hours at sea to estimate the average sailing speed, as formulated in equation [5.30.](#page-52-3)

$$
v_{MRV} = \frac{FC_{MRV} * 1000}{f_{CMMRV} * t_{s,MRV}}
$$
(5.30)

The trip sailing speed results in a significant low or high sailing speed for a part of the trip. This can be explained by incorrect registrations and port calls, which result in trips of an unrealistic duration. The obtained [AIS](#page-7-3) data does not provide details regarding the sailing speed of the ship to identify an

explanation for this error. Therefore, the trip sailing speeds are corrected to be within the order of 50% to 110% of the design speed. After correcting the average trip sailing speed, the results are in line with the average sailing speed based on the [THETIS-MRV](#page-8-5) database. However, correcting the trip speeds affects the trip duration, considering the trip distance is constant.

5.3.5. Transported Cargo

In addition to the ports and timestamps, the[AIS](#page-7-3) dataset registered the ship's draught at the time of the port call. The reported draught at the departure port is considered trip draught (*Tk*). This data provides the determination of the mass displacement of the ship during the trip (∆*k*). As suggested in section [5.2](#page-43-0).1, the volume displacement is linear and related to the ship's draught, considering the length, beam, and block coefficient are constant. Equation [5.31](#page-53-1) calculates the volume displacement during the trip.

$$
W_k = L_{wl} * B * T_k * C_B * \rho_{sw}
$$
\n
$$
(5.31)
$$

The [APSN model](#page-7-5) minimizes the loss of revenue based on the cargo income (I^C) and the bunker costs (*C ^B*). The cargo income depends on the amount of cargo transported by the ship. The transported cargo during the trip (V_k^C) is the main component of the trip displacement and is calculated by equation [5.32.](#page-53-0) The *ρ^g* refers to the cargo density of cargo *g*.

$$
V_k^C = \frac{W_k - lwt - m^T - m_{rest}}{\rho_g} \tag{5.32}
$$

To estimate the cargo income of the trip, the transported cargo is multiplied by the freight rate. The freight rates for each cargo type are established from the Clarkson Research [SIN](#page-8-7) database. The applied freight rates are balanced over the annual fluctuation of the data. In general, freight rates are related to specific trajectories. Therefore, the original freight rates are divided by the distance of the related traject so that the freight rates can be implemented as USD/(units*·*nm) and independent from the distance. However, the reported freight rates data for the crude tankers was limited and did not include a reference distance or ship size. Therefore, the freight rate for crude tankers is calculated differently. The final freight rates are shown in table [5.8.](#page-53-2)

Table 5.8: Freight rates per cargo type.

Cargo Type	Freight Rate	(FR_a)
Grain	0.006224	$USD/(t \cdot nm)$
TEU	0.5160	USD/(TEU·nm)
Crude	38580	USD/(day)
Product	0.007315	$USD/(t \cdot nm)$
LNG	0.002318	$USD/(m^3 \cdot nm)$

This section provides the operational parameters for the developed ammonia-powered shipping network. Table [5.9](#page-54-1) contains the average of parameters regarding the trip data for each fleet type.

Fleet Type	$\, n$	T_{avg}	t_{sea}	d_{TOT}	v_{avg}	$V_{k,avg}^C$
	Ŀ1	[m]	[h]	[nm]	[kn]	Im^3
Bulkers	11.6	12.9	5533	51611	10.3	90098
Containerships	50.7	13	5760	77349	15.7	11347
Crude Tankers	15.8	11.8	5603	42928	9.9	98100
Product Tankers	177	10.9	5329	47245	10.5	60023
LNG Carriers	17	10.5	6484	79386	13.6	136574

Table 5.9: Average trip performance parameters for each fleet type.

∗ The volume cargo loss of constainerships is measures in TEU.

5.4. Port Data

The port selection is based on ports visited by the considered fleet, as reported in the [AIS](#page-7-3) dataset. In the [AIS](#page-7-3) dataset, the ports are identified by their [UN/LOCODE](#page-8-11). This results in a port selection of 644 ports worldwide, as shown in figure [5.3.](#page-55-0) Some big ports have several [UN/LOCODE](#page-8-11) for different areas in their port. In this research, each [UN/LOCODE](#page-8-11) is approached as an individual port. In table [5.10,](#page-54-2) the required port parameters are defined, including the related units and resources. This section explains the data generation for the port parameters regarding the identification of the port and the input parameter to define the [OPEX](#page-8-1) of the ammonia bunker price.

Table 5.10: The port parameters, units, definitions and sources.

Parameter	Unit	Definition	Resource
C_h	m	Channel Depth of the port	WPI
Lat	\circ	Latitude location coordinate of port	WPI
Long	\circ	Longitude location coordinate of port	WPI
N_h	-	Number of port visits	Based on the AIS data
Name	-	Port name	WPI
p_{FO}	USD/t	Bunker price for fuel oil	Clarkson Research SIN
c_h^{prod}	USD/t	Ammonia production cost	Nayak-Luke and Bañares-Alcántara (2020)
c_h^{trans}	USD/t	Ammonia transportation cost	Nayak-Luke and Bañares-Alcántara (2020)
			& Salmon et al. (2021)
n_h	$\qquad \qquad \blacksquare$	Number of existing ammonia cargo facilities in the port	ALFA LAVAL et al. (2020)
UN/LOCODE		United Nations Code for Trade and Transport Locations	WPI

General Port Parameters

Based on the [UN/LOCODE](#page-8-11)s reported in the [AIS](#page-7-3) data, the location of the ports could be obtained from the WPI database. The locations of the ports are defined with the latitude and longitude coordinates. These coordinates are required to calculate the distance between the ports with the searoute module in Python, as described in section 5.3. Besides the location of the port, the WPI data provides the official port name and the country of the port. However, the WPI data does not include all the ports reported in the AIS data. Therefore, the location of the missing ports is obtained manually from MarineTraffic.com.

The number of port visits is based on the port calls in the AIS data. This gives a first indication of the participation of the ports in the shipping network. Figure [5.3](#page-55-0) depicts the number of port visits for each port based on the AIS data.

Number Of Port Visits Per Year

Figure 5.3: The number of port visits at each port location considered in the case study.

Bunker Prices Parameters

The model generates the impact of a transition to ammonia by comparing the operational performance of the ships considering fuel oil and ammonia. Therefore, the bunker prices for this fuel are required. The fuel oil bunker price for each port is estimated based on the [Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil \(VLSFO\)](#page-8-12) bunker prices data from Clarkosn Research([2023a\)](#page-87-3). This data provides the global average of bunker prices in 2022 and for specific countries and ports. Considering the variation is the [VLSFO](#page-8-12) bunker price based on the location, the bunker price for fuel oil is determined for each port.

The ammonia bunker price is not obtained from a dataset but is approached using the Port model developed in this research. However, this approach required the production costs $(c_h^{\widetilde{prod}})$ and the transportation costs (c_h^{trans} for ammonia as input data for the Port model. The production costs are approached based on the results of studies Nayak-Luke and Bañares-Alcántara [\(2020\)](#page-89-1) and Salmon et al.([2021\)](#page-89-0). These studies developed a model to estimate the [PLCOA](#page-8-3) based on the geographical opportunities for green ammonia production, considering the availability of wind and solar energy. Besides, the studies provide an approach to the transportation costs for two modes of transport: by ship and pipeline. The transportation mode for each port is based on the ammonia demand of the port and the region in which the port is located.

Channel Depth

Initially, the bunker strategy model included a third constraint regarding the draught of the ship, equation [5.33.](#page-55-1) These constraints ensure that the ship can only perform the trip with the draught of the ship being smaller than the channel depths of the departure and arrival ports. If this is not the case, the ship has to reduce its draught by losing cargo or fuel. However, comparing the draughts registered in the AIS trip data to the channel depth of the related ports reported by the WPI, significant errors were found. Most of the ships enter at least once a port with a smaller channel depth than the current ship's draught. Therefore, the constraint is eliminated from the model, and the route is prioritised according to the AIS data. The smallest value of these three parameters is the maximum draught of the ship during the trip, as defined with constraint [5.33.](#page-55-1)

$$
T_{max} = min(T_{max,s}, D_k, D_{k+1})
$$
\n
$$
(5.33)
$$

6 Case Study

As a result of the literature study, fuel consumption is a parameter highly impacted by a fuel switch to ammonia. The fuel consumption represents the performance of the ships and depends on the fuel type, draught, sailing speed and the distance travelled by the ship. Besides, the fuel consumption is related to the maximum range of the ship, which is determined based on the fuel tank's volume. Therefore, the three significant design and performance parameters are the fuel type, the fuel tank volume, and the sailing speed. Next to those parameters, the bunkering and rerouting strategies impact the fuel tank volume and vice versa.

This chapter elaborates on the steps taken to investigate the impact of a fuel switch to ammonia on these parameters and strategies. The first section generates a baseline for the ship's operational pattern based on the current ship designs and trip data and compares the fuels, fuel oil and ammonia. In section 6.2, three different speed scenarios are compared, including the trip speed, the design speed and the speed referring to when the ship is operating at 60% MCR. The fuel tank volume of the ship is the following parameter to investigate in section 6.3. Here, the volume of the onboard fuel tank is increased by scaling the tank in three ways based on the density ratio of fuel oil and ammonia: the longest trip and the second-longest trip. The third factor to investigate is the bunker strategy, which includes two strategies. Firstly, in the trip bunkering strategy, the ship always bunkers the fuel required for the upcoming trip at the start port of the trip. Secondly, the forward bunkering strategy is considered to minimize the bunker costs. Besides, the last scenarios apply an integration of fuel tank optimization in the model to generate a fuel tank volume that minimizes the loss of income to the shipowner. This optimization is performed for both considered bunker strategies.

Finally, the ten scenarios are summarised in section 6.5 to provide an overview of the conditions in each scenario and the model process. Besides, the table includes an overview of whether the rerouting module is considered to ensure the route's feasibility.

6.1. Baseline (S0)

This step generates a baseline of the current performance of the ships and their fuel consumption based on their deployment and the trip sailing speed obtained from the trip data. The scenario performed with fuel oil (S0A) is the baseline and is considered the reference data to determine the operational impact of ammonia. The scenario (S0B) considering ammonia as fuel is performed to prove the suggested challenges regarding using ammonia as a marine fuel in the literature research. Besides, the results of this scenario demonstrate the problem statement and, therefore, confirm the relevance of the research.

Besides the different fuels, the two scenarios are performed with the same condition and stay close to the original input data. Therefore, the sailing speed of the ships is the average speed based on the AIS data calculated according to section [5.3](#page-49-1) and the volume of the fuel tank onboard is based on the Clarkson WRF data. To retain the baseline simple, it is considered that the ship will always bunker the amount of fuel required for the upcoming trip at the start port of the trip, and rerouting is not considered. Considering there is no rerouting in scenario S0B, in combination with maintaining the original volume of the fuel tank, it is expected that this will result in unfeasible trips for the ships and therefore, the model will mark the ships with unfeasible trips as failed. However, this scenario aims to provide an insight into the operational challenges that will occur by switching to ammonia as a marine fuel. This will quantify the operational impact of ammonia in the number of trips not feasible in the current operational profile of the ships compared to the fuel oil scenario, S0A.

6.2. Sailing Speed (S1)

In this section, the effect of the ship's sailing speed is studied. The three sailing speed scenarios are the design speed (S1A), the sailing speed when operating on 60% MCR (S1B) and the average trip speed (S1C), based on the AIS data. All scenarios consider ammonia as the fuel and the original fuel tank volume.

With the three sailing speed scenarios, the impact of the sailing speed on the fuel consumption and, therefore, the feasibility of the assigned trips is demonstrated. To prioritise this impact on the ship and the shipping network, the ships will always bunker the amount of fuel required for the upcoming trip at the start port of the trip.

The literature research concludes that higher sailing speeds result in higher fuel consumption and shows that, generally, ships sail at lower sailing speeds than their design speed. Therefore, it is assumed that the fuel consumption of the trips in scenario S1A will be bigger than in scenario S0B. The rerouting sub-model is used in the three sailing speed scenarios to ensure the feasibility of the routes.

The decision to perform these three sailing speed scenarios is established to observe the impact of the sailing speed from the perspective of a fuel switch to ammonia. However, in the context of the obtained data, the sailing speed is estimated based on the AIS data. As elaborated in section [5.3,](#page-49-1) the unrealistic trip speed resulting from the AIS data is corrected to fit within the range of 50% to 110% of the design speed. This correcting results in a disparity with the registered duration of the time, and therefore, it is assumed that a plausible speed optimization is not attainable.

Hence, the results of these scenarios demonstrate a general impact of the sailing speed on the operational profile of the ships by simulating high, standard, and low sailing speed scenarios to cover the range of potential sailing speeds. Scenario S1A, with ships operating on their design speed, is the upper bound simulation, considering the efficiency of the ship's main engines decreasing for higher speed. Besides, ship operators prefer to sail at an economical speed, which is lower than the design speed in the current market. The lower bound is performed in scenario S1B, with sailing speed defined by the sailing speed related to the ship performance at 60%MCR, assuming that the main engine efficiency decreases significantly for lower MCR, resulting in more fuel consumption. To quantify the impact of the high and low-speed scenarios, the third sailing speed scenario, S1C, is included based on the sailing speed from the trip data. The extension from scenario S0B to scenario S1C is that scenario S1C considers rerouting in contrast to S0B. The other variable conditions are the same in all sailing speed scenarios.

6.3. Fuel Tank Volume (S2)

In this scenario category, the impact of the volume of the fuel tank of the ships is studied in three subscenarios. The fuel tank volume scenario is simulated with the sailing speed based on the trip speed for the trip data and is fuelled with ammonia. The bunker strategy for the scenarios is that the ship will always bunker the amount of fuel required for the upcoming trip at the start port of the trip. The scenarios differ in the volume of the fuel tank. Besides, the size of the fuel tank determines if rerouting should be considered.

In the first fuel tank volume scenario, S2A is based on the contained volumetric energy density ratio between fuel oil and ammonia. The volumetric energy density ratio (*R_{ρEV}*) is 3.51 and is calculated in equation [6.1.](#page-58-0) Therefore, the volume of the fuel tank of the ships increases by 351% in this scenario. Table [6.1,](#page-59-0) this is referred to as *Design volume scaled to ammonia*. This is a significant increase in the fuel tank volume. Therefore, no rerouting is considered.

$$
R_{\rho_{EV}} = \frac{\rho_{EV}^{FO}}{\rho_{EV}^{NH3}} = \frac{33.2 MJ/L}{9.45 MJ/L} \approx 3.51
$$
 (6.1)

Scenario S2B is simulated with a fuel tank volume based on the volume of the amount of fuel required to complete the longest trip of the ship's route. The longest trip refers to the trip that requires the highest fuel consumption, according to the trip data. In this scenario, rerouting is not required because increasing the fuel tank volume to fit the longest trip is coherent with the ship being able to complete all trips. The reroute module applies for trips that are not feasible, considering the maximum sailing range is smaller than the trip distance. In scenario S2B, the fuel tank volume is scaled to fit the longest trip; therefore, the trip distance is always feasible within the range of the ship and rerouting is not required.

The longest trip elimination defines the third fuel tank volume scenario, S2C. In this scenario, the model of the rerouting module is implemented to divide the longest trip into two smaller trips. This implies that the fuel tank volume is scaled to the fuel amount required to complete the second-longest trip or is equal to 75% of the fuel required to complete the longest trip. The smallest volume of the two is the dominant volume for this scenario. Considering the longest trip elimination, the ships cannot complete all their trips. Therefore, the rerouting module is applied in this scenario. This scenario shows the sensitivity of ships with one long trip compared to the other trips in the route. This improves the flexibility of the fuel tank requirements with a minimum change in the routing.

6.4. Bunker Strategy Optimization (S3)

This research includes a broad selection of 1025 large seagoing ships. The selection contains five different fleet types that vary in size and operational area. Therefore, the impact of a fuel switch to ammonia differs for each ship. For example, the preferable fuel tank volume varies for the several ship types. In scenarios S0A to S2C, the ships have a fixed fuel tank volume, which neglects the possibility of varying per ship type to find the most suitable option.

In the two scenarios of S3, the fuel tank volume will vary from 100% to 400% of the original fuel tank volume. The most suitable fuel tank volume for each ship is estimated by pursuing a balance between the fuel tank volume increase and the decrease in cargo volume. The balance is achieved by minimizing the loss of ship annual revenue by applying the bunker strategy model in section 4.1.

This fuel tank optimization is applied for both bunker strategy scenarios, resulting in scenarios S3A and S3B. Scenario S3A simulates that the ships will always bunker the amount of fuel required for the upcoming trip at the start port of the trip. Scenario S3B considers the forward bunker strategy. Both scenarios are simulated for ammonia as fuel, operating on the trip speed and requiring rerouting.

In the bunker strategy scenario S3B, the impact on the ports is studied, and the dynamics between the port choice of the ships, the fuel price and the fuel demand of the ports appear. To generate this, the forward bunker strategy implies that the ship can choose which port the ship bunkers should be in to minimize the total annual bunker costs, and it is not obligated to bunker in each port of the route. The construction and constraints of the forward bunker strategy are further elaborated in section 4.1.

6.5. Overview

This section provides an overview of all the ten scenarios and their related scenario properties. The overview is presented in table [6.1.](#page-59-0) The table assists the reader in going through the scenarios presented in this report.

Properties	S ₀		S ₁		S2			S ₃		
	A	B	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	в
Fuel										
Fuel oil	✓									
Ammonia					\checkmark			\checkmark	\checkmark	
Sailing speed										
Design sailing speed										
Sailing speed with 60%MCR										
Trip sailing speed	✓									
Fuel Tank										
Design volume	\checkmark	✓								
Design volume scaled to ammonia										
Required volume the longest trip										
Longest trip elimination										
100% to 400% design volume										
Bunker strategy										
Refuel when required one trip	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark					
Refuel forward										
Route										
Given route	✓									
Rerouting										

Table 6.1: Overview of the simulated scenarios and their conditions and considerations.

 $\sqrt{2}$

Validation and Model Testing

In this chapter, the model validation is explained. The results of the [APSN model](#page-7-5) depend on the input data and the structure of the model. Therefore, the validation contains two parts. Firstly, the obtained input data is validated to be a plausible dataset for the model. This validation is described in section 7.1. Subsequently, the [APSN model](#page-7-5) is tested in order to ensure that the model performs as it should by a set of modelling tests, as defined in section 7.2.

7.1. Input Data Validation

The [APSN model](#page-7-5) requires a wide collection of input data, including ship design data, ship performance data, trip data, port data and fuel data. Therefore, the results of the model depend on the reliability of the data. In this section, the validation of the input data is explained. The results for the input data are compared to reports and datasets similar to this research. In table [7.1](#page-60-0), the validation method for the data is summarized.

7.2. Model Testing

For the scenario S0, the model was tested with one ship to identify and solve errors. The test ship was the 'Abliani', which had a set of 19 trips. In this way, the basic functionality of the model is tested, and results are compared to expected results. In the second step, the complete raw data set is used

to evaluate the model and to identify and solve errors that result from the much wider variety of trips and routes. Similar approaches are followed for the other scenarios with a focus on the changes in the simulation model. The large data set of ships is used as a test set for the validation of the models. Table [7.2](#page-61-0) lists the specific tests that are performed.

8

Results

In this chapter, the results of the model are presented according to the scenarios that were performed. First, the baseline scenarios S0A and S0B are discussed in section 8.1. These results are used as reference data for the other scenarios to indicate the operational impact of ammonia. Section 8.2 elaborates on the results of the speed scenarios (S1) and fuel tank (S2) scenarios. The results are explained in section 8.3. The results of the bunker strategy optimisation scenarios (S3) are divided into sections 8.4 for the trip bunkering optimisation (S3A) and 8.5 for the forward bunkering optimization (S3B). Besides, section 8.5 includes an additional review of the result for the EU port in the context of the [MAGPIE](#page-7-14) project. The description of the specific considerations for each scenario can be found in Chapter 6. Finally, the results are summarized in conclusion 8.6. In this chapter, the results regarding the impact on the ship are presented as the average per fleet type.

8.1. Baseline S0A and S0B

The first set of scenarios is applied to get a general overview of the impact of the transition to ammonia. Whereas Scenario S0A is considered a shipping network powered by fuel oil, and Scenario S0B is based on an ammonia-powered shipping network.

Scenario S0A represents the performance of the ships in the current situation, powered by fuel oil and based on the [AIS](#page-7-3) data. This scenario is used as the baseline scenario. The results for the fuel consumption, fuel costs, cargo income and annual revenue for this scenario are summarized in the table [8.1](#page-62-0). Comparing these results with the results of scenario S0B in table [8.2](#page-63-0) provides a general overview of the impact of the transition to ammonia on fuel consumption and the feasibility of the original operational pattern.

Table 8.1: The results of the fuel consumption, fuel costs, cargo income and the annual revenue for scenario S0A for each fleet type.

In table [8.2,](#page-63-0) the results for the same routes are simulated based on the transition to ammonia. This table shows the increase in fuel costs and the loss of revenue related to this. In this scenario, the fuel tank volume is not changed. Therefore, the fleet has the same potential cargo capacity. However, due to the higher fuel consumption, a large part of the ships are not able to fulfil all the trips in their route due to a fuel tank volume that is too small. Table 8.3 summarizes the number of ships with unfeasible trips for S0B and the other scenarios. These ships required changes in the fuel tank volume, sailing speed, or route. In extinction, table 8.4 shows the average percentage of trips that are not feasible for the ship; on the left side is the fleet average, and on the right side is the average for the ships that require change. This quantifies the size of the problem that needs attention in further scenarios.

Table 8.2: Scenario S0B: The annual change of fuel consumption, cargo loss, fuel costs, cargo income and revenue in percentage for scenario S0B compared to the baseline scenario S0A.

Fleet Type	ΔFC_M	ΔV^C	ΛC^B	ΔI^C	ΔR
	[t]	Im^3	[mUSD]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]
Bulkers	+86.23%	0.0%	+191.01%	0.0%	$-50.94%$
Containerships	$+85.15%$	0.0%	+59.63%	0.0%	$-3.44%$
Crude Tankers	$+85.6%$	0.0%	+133.86%	0.0%	$-141.85%$
Product Tankers	+85.78%	0.0%	$+141.7%$	0.0%	$-62.8%$
LNG Carriers	$+85.7%$	0.0%	+80.57%	0.0%	$-271.04%$
Total Fleet	+85.57%	0.0%	$+110.19%$	0.0%	$-103.95%$

Fuel Volume Ratio (R^F) for the Fuel Required for the Longest Trip (V(Q_{max}^{req})) vs. the Fuel Tank Capacity (V^T) for each Fleet Type

Figure 8.1: Fuel Volume Ratio (*R^F*) for fuel oil (grey) and ammonia (green) for all ships presented per fleet type.

To further visualize the difference in fuel consumption, figure 8.1 shows in a box plot per fleet type the fuel volume ratio (*R^F*). The fuel volume ratio is defined as the volume of fuel required for the longest trip $(V(Q_{max}^{req}))$ divided by the volume of the original fuel tank of the ship (V^T) , as denoted in equation [8.1](#page-64-0). If the fuel volume ratio is more than one, the fuel tank of the ship should increase to complete all the assigned trips. The fuel volume ratio for fuel oil confirms that the fuel tanks of the ships are overdesigned for their current operational patterns and, therefore, provide more freedom regarding the bunker strategy. Comparing the fuel volume ratio for both fuels, the increase in the fuel volume ratio is equal to the increase in fuel consumption in table [8.2.](#page-63-0) The fuel volume ratio of ammonia is around 182 % higher and illustrates the impact of ammonia on fuel consumption. Besides, figure [8.1](#page-63-1) suggests the fuel volume ratio is more than one for half of the LNG carriers and product tankers and thus, the impact of ammonia is more critical for these fleet types than the other ships.

$$
R^F = \frac{V(Q_{max}^{req})}{V^T}
$$
\n(8.1)

It should be noted that for scenario S0A, powered by fuel oil, some of the ships have a fuel volume ratio that is larger than one and would not be able to complete their longest trip. This applies to less than 5% of the total fleet and is caused by the generalized power assumption made in Chapter 5. This margin is considered an acceptable error margin.

The number of ships that are not able to complete all their assigned trips in scenario S0B are summarized in table [8.3.](#page-64-1) In this scenario, around 65% of the ships have not completed their route. In addition, table [8.4](#page-64-2) lists the average part of the trips that are not accomplished in the scenario for each fleet type. The numbers on the left side of the columns represent the average of all ships in the fleet, and the numbers on the right side represent the average of the ships with unfeasible trips. Comparing these two numbers indicates the number of ships affected by the transition to ammonia. The tables also include the scenarios analysed in the next two sections.

The tables show the number of ships per fleet type that require a resizing of the fuel tank volume to maintain their operational deployability. Alternatively, these ships could lower their speed to reduce their fuel consumption or change their routes by splitting long trips into smaller trips. In these ways, the increase in the fuel tank volume can be reduced. The impact of ammonia on the feasibility of the trips is the strongest for LNG carriers, and containerships experience the smallest impact of the five fleet types.

		Number of ships that require change							
Fleet	S ₀ B	S ₁ A	S ₁ B	S ₁ C	S2A	S ₂ B	S _{2C}	in fleet	
Bulkers	64	110	13	64	3	0	112	112	
Containerships	148	298	45	148	3	0	300	300	
Crude tankers	216	300	96	216	5	0	312	312	
Product tankers	106	125	44	106	6	0	125	125	
LNG carriers	142	171	94	142	10	0	176	176	
Total fleet	676	1004	292	676	27	0	1025	1025	

Table 8.3: Number of ships that cannot complete their current route with the original fuel tank volume and sailing speed.

Table 8.4: Percentage of unfeasible trips of the total number of trips, without considering rerouting, presented per fleet type. The numbers on the left side of the columns represent the average of all ships in the fleet, and the numbers on the right side represent the average of the ships with unfeasible trips.

The scenarios in S0 compare the conventional fueled and ammonia-powered fleets and show the need for a larger fuel tank volume for the ammonia-powered ships. In order to have a baseline for the [APSN](#page-7-5) [model](#page-7-5) that is used later, table [8.5](#page-65-0) shows the ports that are currently visited by the ships in the [AIS](#page-7-3) data and the amount of fuel that is bunkered in the ports. The table includes the 20 ports with the highest demand and the ten ports with the smallest demand. For future use, the fuel oil is recalculated based on the ammonia-to-fuel oil mass ratio of 1.85. The last column of the table shows the estimated ammonia bunker price in the ports based on the demand following scenario S0B. These bunker prices are used for the S1 and S2 scenarios and the initial starting point for the [APSN model](#page-7-5) in the simulations of scenario S3 simulations. Besides, it is used as a baseline to see the effect of ammonia on the shipping network.

8.2. Sailing Speed Scenario S1

The S1 scenarios simulate the impact of speed on fuel consumption, related costs and revenue. The scenarios S1A (table [8.6](#page-66-0)), S1B (table [8.7](#page-66-1)), and S1C (table [8.8](#page-67-0)) are respectively run with the design speed of the ship, the sailing speed related to 60[%MCR](#page-8-9) and the trip speeds based on the AIS-data. The tables give a quantification of the impact of speed on fuel consumption (*F CM*). In these scenarios, the fuel tank volume is not changed, and thus, the cargo capacity is not reduced. Besides the costs, this also affects the range that ships can sail, as is clearly shown in table [8.3](#page-64-1) and [8.4](#page-64-2). Due to the

relation between the speed and the fuel consumption, see equation [4.5,](#page-37-7) the change in speed have a significant impact on the fuel consumption. Therefore, scenario S1A results in a fuel consumption eight times higher than S0A and nearly three times higher than scenario S1C, even though the average speed difference is 30%. Next to that, 27% of the ships cannot complete their route in S1A, even with rerouting.

The significant increase in fuel consumption results in extremely high fuel costs and substantially negative revenues. Therefore, a fuel transition to ammonia would involve a reduction in the design speed or a fuel tank volume increase of over 1000%. This suggestion is supported by the results for scenario S1B, which shows a smaller fuel consumption that is the same as scenario S0A. It should be noted that these results show the fuel consumption mass, not the volume. Therefore, the fuel volume still increases by nearly 100%. However, considering the results for S0A in figure [8.1,](#page-63-1) most ships have overcapacity and can handle this volume increase. This shows opportunities for the transition to ammonia in scenario S1B.

The consideration of the last speed scenario, S1C, is nearly the same as scenario S0B. However, this scenario considers rerouting. Comparing these scenarios, the results of S1C show a minimal difference compared to S0B. For the containerships, crude tankers and LNG carriers, the fuel consumption, and thus costs, decrease by 0.5%. On the other hand, the opposite happens for the bulkers and product carriers. Considering the large set of ships and the generalized equation, it concludes that rerouting has no significant impact on the results.

FC_M	C^B	ΛC^B	$\triangle R$
[t]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]
38061	32.91	27.43	-27.43
168000	107.93	85.16	-85.16
36372	28.39	23.34	-23.34
29689	24.91	19.94	-19.94
80483	61.19	44.55	-44.55
81841	57.37	45.11	-45.11

Table 8.6: Scenario S1A: Fuel consumption, fuel costs, change of fuel costs and revenue.

Table 8.7: Scenario S1B: Fuel consumption, fuel costs, change of fuel costs and revenue.

Fleet Type	FC_M	C^B	ΔC^{B}	ΔR
	[t]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]
Bulkers	6840	14.9	9.42	-9.42
Containerships	28367	22.2	-0.57	0.57
Crude Tankers	6930	9.74	4.7	-4.7
Product Tankers	5550	10.31	5.33	-5.33
LNG Carriers	19434	18.03	1.39	-1.39
Total Fleet	15173	15.44	3.18	-3.18

Fleet Type	FC_M	C^B	ΔC^B	ΔR
	[t]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]
Bulkers	12977	18.66	13.19	-13.19
Containerships	53432	37.27	14.49	-14.49
Crude Tankers	11837	12.92	7.87	-7.87
Product Tankers	11730.	14.16	9.18	-9.18
LNG Carriers	39618	31.9	15.27	-15.27
Total Fleet	28893	24.08	11.82	-11.82

Table 8.8: Scenario S1C: Fuel consumption, fuel costs, change of fuel costs and revenue.

8.3. Fuel Tank Volume S2

The S2 scenarios simulate the impact of fuel tank capacity on the costs and revenue. The three scenarios, S2A (table [8.9](#page-68-0)), S2B (table [8.10\)](#page-68-1), and S2C (table [8.11\)](#page-68-2), respectively, use a fuel tank volume that is scaled from fuel oil to ammonia, a fuel capacity that is optimized to the longest trip in the route of each ship and a third scenario with the approach of elimination of the longest route as explained in section 6.3. These scenarios are used to narrow the scope of the optimization in the scenarios of S3 and find the boundaries for the increase in fuel tank volume. Above this, these simulations show to what extent the rerouting of S2C has an effect on the necessary tank volume compared to the other scenarios.

The column E_t shows the number of ships that could not complete all the trips on the route, and ΔV^T shows the average change of the fuel tank volume. In the S2A scenario, all fuel tanks increase with the same ratio, the volumetric energy density ratio from ammonia to fuel oil, which is a substantial increase in volume. However, there are 27 ships, so not all trips are feasible. For scenario S2B, the longest trip is used to determine the new fuel tank volume, so all trips should be feasible as supported by the results of *E^t* are all zero. As shown by scenario S0B, 35% of the ships can fulfil their route without increasing the fuel tank volume. Therefore, the average increase of the fuel tank volume is smaller than in scenario S2A.

The same remark applies to the results of scenario S2C; the fuel tank volume is changed to 75% of the required fuel volume for the longest route or the second longest route. Referring to figure [8.1](#page-63-1), the fuel volume ratio for ammonia is smaller or around one for some ships. Following the approach for scenario S2C, this results in fuel tank volume smaller than the original fuel tank volume. This applies to the bulkers and containerships. However, a decrease in the fuel tank volume is not plausible for two reasons. There is no advantage regarding extra cargo capacity or income due to the model constraints and a smaller fuel tank results in less freedom regarding the bunker strategies.

In order to define the boundaries of the fuel tank volume range for the optimization, the results of scenarios S2A, S2B and S2C are reviewed, and the range is set from 100% to 400% of the fuel tank volume. This is done to ensure plausible results and include the possibility for each ship to complete its longest route without rerouting.

Finally, the scenarios of S2 suggest that the revenues of scenario S2b, compared to scenario S2C, show minimal difference. Therefore, it confirms the minimal effect of rerouting on the annual costs and revenues of the trip bunkering strategy.

[∗] The volume cargo loss of constainerships is measures in TEU.

Table 8.10: S2B Scenario: Fuel tank capacity, increase of the fuel tank, number of ships that require rerouting, cargo loss, change in cargo income and revenue.

Fleet Type	V^T	ΔV^T	E_t	ΔV^C	ΔI^C	ΔR
	[m 3]		$[\cdot]$	$\mathsf{[m^3]}$	[mUSD]	[mUSD]
Bulkers	5646	209%	Ω	-1359	-0.05	-13.38
Containerships	10336	176%	Ω	$-128*$	-0.24	-14.36
Crude Tankers	4947	234%	0	-439	0	-8.55
Product Tankers	4232	283%	Ω	-465	-0.01	-9.71
LNG Carriers	9872	296%	0	-42669	-0.45	-15.93
Total Fleet	7359	216%	0	-7703	-0.16	-12.19

[∗] The volume cargo loss of constainerships is measures in TEU.

Table 8.11: S2C Scenario: Fuel tank capacity, increase of the fuel tank, number of ships that require rerouting, cargo loss, change in cargo income and revenue.

Fleet Type	V^T	ΔV^T	E_t	ΛV^C	ΔI^C	ΔR
	$\mathsf{[m^3]}$		ſ-1	[$m3$]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]
Bulkers	2430	90%	112	-129	0	-13.17
Containerships	4475	76%	300	$-1*$	0	-14.39
Crude Tankers	2142	101%	312	-10	0	-8.17
Product Tankers	1829	122%	125	-10	0	-9.43
LNG Carriers	4273	128%	176	-3090	-0.03	-14.75
Total Fleet	3184	93%	1025	-549	-0.01	-11.82

[∗] The volume cargo loss of constainerships is measures in TEU.

8.4. Trip Bunker Strategy Optimization S3A

In scenario S3A, the simulation is performed for a range of different ammonia fuel tank volumes starting at 100% compared to the original fuel tank volume until 400% in steps of 25%. In this scenario, the model determines the fuel tank increase that results in minimal loss of revenue for the ship. The ship bunkers the ammonia fuel required for the upcoming trip in each departure port, according to the trip bunkering approach. Firstly, the impact of the fuel tank volume increase on the cargo is explained. This impact is the same for scenarios S3A and S3B. Subsequently, the impact on the fuel costs and

revenues are described for scenario S3A, resulting in the optimal increase of the fuel tank volume. Finally, the impact of ammonia-powered ships on the bunker port network is presented, considering all ships are operating with their optimal increase of fuel tank volume and a homogeneous shipping market.

8.4.1. Cargo Losses

The diagrams of figure [8.2](#page-69-0) show the impact of fuel tank volume related to the cargo capacity. Initially, the increase in fuel tank volume results directly in a decrease in the cargo capacity. However, the ships are not fully loaded during most of their trips, according to the results for the average cargo capacity (V^C) and the average transported cargo volume $(V_{k,avg}^C)$ in tables[5.4](#page-46-0) and [5.9](#page-54-1). Figure [8.2a](#page-69-0) shows the result of the calculated average number of trips per ship that experience effective cargo loss. This was calculated using the current draught data of the ship in the [AIS](#page-7-3) data. Figure [8.2b](#page-69-0)^{[1](#page-69-1)} shows the average relative cargo loss regarding the original cargo capacity for each fleet type. The related loss in cargo income is depicted in figure [8.2c](#page-69-0) in a million USD, and figure [8.2d](#page-69-0) shows the relative loss of income compared to the baseline scenario S0A.

(a) Average number of trips with cargo loss per ship as a result of the fuel (b) Average decrease in transported cargo as a result of the fuel tank tank volume increase. volume increase.

(c) Average loss in cargo income as a result of the fuel tank volume increase.

(d) Average relative loss in cargo income as a result of the fuel tank volume increase.

Figure 8.2: Cargo and income losses as a result of increasing the fuel tank of the ships, representing each fleet type in scenarios S3A and S3B.

For a fuel tank volume increase up to 200%, the figures depict no significant impact. However, when the increase builds up, the results of the cargo loss show some remarkable differences between the fleet types. First of all, the figures reveal a minimal impact on the cargo losses for bulkers, crude tankers and product tankers by increasing the fuel tank volume. Most crude and product tankers experience effective cargo loss for less than one trip a year. This results in a reduction of cargo capacity and

¹The decrease in transported cargo is almost the same. Therefore, the yellow line representing the bulkers is not clearly visible.

income of less than 0.25%, which is neglectable considering the general approach of this research. The impact on the bulkers is a little higher, but still, only one trip a year is affected by the increase of the fuel tank, and the average relative losses are not larger than 0.5%. On the contrary, the results for containerships and LNG carriers show more impact.

For the LNG carriers, the diagrams in figure [8.2](#page-69-0) show the highest impact, as these ships experience the most trips with effective cargo loss, and this reflects on the loss in cargo income. A reason for this can be related to the density of [LNG](#page-7-7) compared to ammonia. The density of LNG is smaller than the density of ammonia; therefore, an increase in the fuel tank volume encounters not only the volume limitations but also the mass limitations. For the other fleet type, the mass limitations are not dominant because the density of the cargo is larger than the density of ammonia. Besides, the difference between the average cargo capacity and the actual volume of cargo transported is smaller compared to the other fleet types.

Besides the LNG carriers, the containerships show a higher impact compared to the total fleet, especially in figure [8.2c](#page-69-0). In general, containerships perform substantially more trips than the other fleet types (table [5.9](#page-54-1)), and the applied freight rate for containerships is higher (table [5.8\)](#page-53-2). As a result, the annual cargo income of the containerships is significantly higher than that of the other ships, see table [8.1](#page-62-0), and therefore, the loss of cargo results in a large sum of cargo income loss. However, the relative loss in cargo income is more balanced, as shown in figure [8.2d.](#page-69-0)

The diagrams in figure [8.2](#page-69-0) show the impact of ammonia on the cargo capacity of the ships, considering a fuel tank volume increase as a result of the lower energy density of the renewable fuel. The results of the parameters related to the cargo do not depend on the bunker strategy approach. Therefore, the effects for the cargo suggested in this subsection are considered for both scenarios S3A and S3B. However, the results for the fuel costs and revenue strongly depend on the bunker strategy. Therefore, the results for these parameters are discussed separately.

8.4.2. Fuel Costs and Revenue

This subsection includes the results for the fuel consumption and the revenue for scenario S3A, considering the trip bunker strategy. The total simulation of this scenario contains five iterations to obtain a balance in the results. The iterations are referred to as run 0 to run 5. Whereas run 0 is based on the port results from S0A and SOB, and run 5 shows the results after five complete simulations of the [BS model](#page-7-0) and the [Port model.](#page-8-2) However, after run 3, no notable change in the results is observed, and thus, the results for run 0 and run 3 are used to illustrate the development of the results during the iterations. In figure [8.3](#page-70-0), the results for the fuel costs are illustrated, and figure [8.4](#page-71-0) shows the results for the loss in revenue.

Figure 8.3: Annual fuel costs as a result of increasing the fuel tank of the ships. Presented per Fleet Type in Scenario S3A.

The results of the fuel costs show a small increase between run 0 and run 3. This is due to the recalculation of the ammonia bunker prices in the [Port model.](#page-8-2) Next to that, the slopes of the fuel costs are balanced after an increase of 200% and show no extra advantage for increasing the fuel tank volume

further. This is the result of the bunker strategy approach to bunker the amount of ammonia required for the upcoming trip in the departure port of the trip. Therefore, the ships only required enough volume to cover the trip.

Except for the containerships, the slopes for the fuel costs show a small increase for larger fuel tank volumes. This is the result of the assumption regarding the fuel reserve (*Qres*) for unpredicted events. The fuel reserve has to be 10% of the fuel tank capacity; therefore, *Qres* increases by the same proportion as the fuel tank volume. At the first port on the route, the ship is required to bunker the amount of the fuel reserve added to the required amount of ammonia for the trip. Therefore, the ship has to bunker more fuel when it has a larger fuel tank, and thus, the fuel costs are higher. If the start port of the ship is a low-demand port, the bunker prices are significantly higher; see table [8.13.](#page-73-0) This results in extremely high extra costs for the ship, and therefore, the annual fuel cost increases for larger fuel tank volumes.

Figure 8.4: Annual loss of revenue as a result of increasing the fuel tank of the ships. Presented per Fleet Type in Scenario S3A.

The results of the loss in revenue in figure [8.4](#page-71-0) show a similar slope as the fuel costs result for the bulkers, crude tankers and product tankers, as these ships have no substantial cargo losses. Therefore, the loss in revenue is similar to the increase in fuel costs. However, containerships and LNG carriers are more affected by the loss of cargo capacity, which results in additional revenue loss. In these slopes, the impact of the decrease in cargo income is displayed as more revenue loss for larger fuel tanks.

8.4.3. Increase of Fuel Tank Volume

In order to optimize the bunker strategy of the ship, the [BS model](#page-7-0) selects the fuel tank volume increase that results in a minimal loss in revenue. In figure [8.5](#page-72-0), the optimal fuel tank volume is displayed and shows the number of ships for each fuel tank volume increase. Table [8.12](#page-72-1) summarizes the average increase in fuel tank volume and the related monetary results compared to scenario S0A.

Optimal Fuel Tank Capacity Increase per Fleet Type For Trip Bunkering

Figure 8.5: The optimal fuel tank volume increase divided per fleet type, considering trip bunkering.

Table 8.12: S3A Scenario: Change of fuel tank volume, fuel consumption, cargo loss, fuel costs, cargo income and revenue.

Fleet Type	ΔV^T	ΔFC_M	ΔV^C	ΔC^B	ΔI^C	ΔR
	$\mathsf{[m^3]}$	$[t]$	Im^3	[mUSD]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]
Bulkers	104.8%	+86.98%	0.0%	+180.75%	0.0%	$-49.12%$
Containerships	110.5%	$+85.62%$	0.0%	+56.96%	0.0%	$-3.26%$
Crude Tankers	106.0%	$+85.79%$	0.0%	+117.68%	0.0%	$-181.47%$
Product Tankers	107.8%	+87.07%	0.0%	$+122.74%$	0.0%	$-53.61%$
LNG Carriers	114.1%	$+87.7%$	0.0%	$+70.72%$	0.0%	$-221.79%$
Total Fleet	108.7%	$+86.35%$	0.0%	$+99.35%$	0.0%	$-106.18%$

Due to the bunker strategy approach for scenario S3A, trip bunkering, the cargo losses are more determinative for the loss in revenue than the fuel costs. Therefore, the optimal increase in fuel tank volume is small for the total fleet.

8.4.4. Bunker Ports

The [Port model](#page-8-0) determines the total demand in each port and the related ammonia bunker price. The results after three runs, related to the results for the bunker strategy, are listed in table [8.13](#page-73-0). This table shows the 20 ports with the highest demand and the ten ports with the lowest demand in the shipping network. In general, the number of active ports in the shipping network reduces from 636 to 625, and the results show a little reduction in the average bunker price for ammonia.

The bunker strategy approach in this scenario applies in that the ships have a bunker in each port on their route. Therefore, most ports do not show significant shifts in ammonia demand. However, the optimal fuel tank volume results in figure [8.5](#page-72-0) reveal a minimal increase in the fuel tanks. Therefore, it is assumed that rerouting is applied for most ships. This defines the results for the larger ports in the network. For these ports, the demand decreases, and the number of visits increases. Considering that the larger ports are located on the main sailing routes and are visited by ships with longer trips, these trips had to be divided into smaller routes. As a result, the ships have to bunker less ammonia in these ports.

However, comparing the results of the five runs, around 10% of the ports have fluctuations in the ammonia demand and number of port visits. For the ports in the [APSN model,](#page-7-0) only 4% has a demand difference from more than 10 visits a year, which is expected considering the bunker strategy in this scenario. During the five runs simulated for this scenario, around 5% of the ports switch up and down with the same demand changes. An explanation for this is that the original demand of the port is close to the maximum storage capacity of the port; therefore, higher demand results in an extra ammonia terminal and significantly higher CAPEX. As a result, the ammonia price of the port increases, and bunkering in this port becomes less profitable. These fluctuations are not considered to have a significant impact on the ports.

Table 8.13: Top 20 ports with the highest demand and the bottom 10 with the lowest demand in scenario S3A after run 3. The ports with a demand of zero tons are excluded from the table.

8.5. Forward Bunker Strategy Optimization S3B

In scenario S3A, the simulation is performed for a range of different ammonia fuel tank volumes starting at 100% compared to the original fuel tank volume until 400% in steps of 25%. In this scenario, the model determines the fuel tank increase that results in minimal loss of revenue for the ship, according to the forward bunker strategy. In each port on the route, the ship considers how much ammonia it should bunker to minimize the fuel costs. This consideration depends on the ammonia bunker price in the port and the fuel tank capacity of the ship. The results of the impact of the fuel tank volume increase on the cargo are explained in subsection 8.4.1. This impact is the same for scenarios S3A and S3B. This section describes the impact on the fuel costs and revenues for scenario S3B, resulting in the optimal increase of the fuel tank volume. Subsequently, the impact of ammonia-powered ships on the bunker port network is presented, considering that all ships operate with their optimal increase of fuel tank volume and a homogeneous shipping market, more specifically, the ports in the EU territory.

The total simulation of this scenario contains ten iterations to obtain a balance in the results. The iterations are referred to as run 0 to run 10. Whereas run 0 is based on the port results from SOB, and run 10 shows the results after ten complete simulations of the [BS model](#page-7-1) and the [Port model](#page-8-0).

8.5.1. Fuel Costs and Revenue

The diagrams in figure [8.6](#page-74-0) show the fuel cost results for scenario S3B. Comparing the results of runs 0 and 3 with the results of runs 5 and 10, the effect of the bunker strategy is visualized. In appendix [A](#page-91-0), the diagrams for all the ten runs are shown. The costs after the implementation of the forward bunker strategy are higher than for run 0. In this scenario, the ships can avoid the ports with high ammonia bunker prices, and this results in lower fuel costs for the ships and smaller demands in the expensive ports. This last result is elaborated further in subsection 8.5.4. Ships with a larger fuel tank volume have more flexibility in the bunker strategy and, therefore, have lower fuel costs.

However, not all expensive bunker ports can be avoided. There are two main reasons why ships cannot skip an expensive port. Firstly, if the ship's route starts in an expensive bunker port, the ship has to tank at least the amount of ammonia required for the first trip before cheaper options are available for bunkering. Secondly, the forward bunker strategy is applied after the final route is defined by the rerouting sub-model, and therefore, the ship depends on this fixed route. When there are expensive ports on the route, the ship can be forced to bunker at an expensive port due to the limitations regarding the maximum range of the ship. This second observation applies especially to the ships with smaller bunker tanks.

Figure 8.6: Evaluation of the Annual Fuel Costs per Fleet Type in Scenario S3B.

The results for the revenues are shown in figure [8.7.](#page-75-0) This figure contains the results of runs 0, 1, 5 and 10 of the simulation. The general trend is a decreasing loss of revenue compared to the baseline S0A scenario, and the decisive factor in this is the lower fuel costs for larger fuel tank volumes. For this scenario, the results of the fuel costs show similarities with the results of the revenue losses. Especially for the LNG carriers, for which the slopes are nearly equal.

However, the results of the containerships show a different pattern. For containerships, the loss in revenue increases when the fuel tank volume is more than 250% of the original fuel tank volume. This is the result of the reduction of the cargo capacity as shown in figure [8.2](#page-69-0). Therefore, the optimal increase in fuel tank volume will be between 200% and 300%. Besides the containerships, the bulkers show a small increase in revenue loss when the fuel tank volume increases by more than 300%.

Figure 8.7: Evaluation of the annual loss of revenue per Fleet Type in Scenario S3B.

8.5.2. Increase of Fuel Tank Volume

The results in the prior subsection show the average results of each fleet type. However, the [BS](#page-7-1) [model](#page-7-1) is developed to generate the optimal increase of fuel tank volume for each ship based on its characteristics and individual route. Figure [8.8](#page-76-0) shows the optimal increase of the fuel tank volume presented in a number of ships per fleet type. This figure supports the optimum for the containership, shown in figure [8.7](#page-75-0)c and [8.7](#page-75-0)d. Table [8.14](#page-76-1) lists the average increase in the fuel tank volume and the related financial results for each fleet type. The result for revenue loss of containerships is 0.25% at an increase of fuel tank volume of 250%, and thus, the revenue is nearly the same as in the baseline scenario S0A. In contrast, the revenue loss of LNG carriers is more than 220%, which could explain the peak at an increase of 400%. This is because of the significant difference between the fuel income and the cargo income.

Comparing figure [8.8](#page-76-0) and [8.5](#page-72-0) from scenario S3A, the ships are divided over the whole range of the fuel tank volume increase options instead of clustered at the small increases. This shows the impact of the bunker strategy on the optimal increase of the fuel tank volume. Scenario S3B depicted a peak at 400% increase, which suggests that these ships prefer an extensive sailing range over the reduction of cargo loss. As explained, this is due to the flexibility in ammonia fuel purchasing, which comes with the larger available fuel tank volume. For these ships, it could be possible that an increase of more than 400% would result in a more optimal result.

Optimal Fuel Tank Capacity Increase per Fleet Type For Forward Bunkering

Figure 8.8: The optimal fuel tank capacity increase divide per fleet type, considering forward bunkering.

Table 8.14: Scenario S3B: Change of fuel tank volume, fuel consumption, cargo loss, fuel costs, cargo income and revenue for scenario S3B

Fleet Type	ΔV^T	ΔFC_M	ΔV^C	ΔC^B	ΔI^C	ΔR
	Im^3		Im^3	[mUSD]	[mUSD]	[mUSD]
Bulkers	207.6%	$+95.48%$	$-0.06%$	$+124.62%$	$-0.06%$	$-39.5%$
Containerships	250.3%	$+90.12%$	$-0.04%$	$-6.91%$	$-0.08%$	$-0.25%$
Crude Tankers	225.0%	$+94.67%$	$-0.02%$	$+111.92%$	$-0.02%$	$-88.21%$
Product Tankers	271.0%	$+92.87%$	-0.06%	$+78.12%$	$-0.07%$	$-22.87%$
LNG Carriers	295.5%	$+91.99%$	$-0.91%$	$+64.76%$	$-0.92%$	$-220.66%$
Total Fleet	248.2%	$+92.75%$	$-0.19%$	$+66.31%$	$-0.2%$	$-71.92%$

8.5.3. Ports

The results from the [Port model](#page-8-0) show that the effect of the forward bunkering approach reflects the ammonia bunker ports. This bunker strategy enables ships to avoid ports with high ammonia bunker prices. This results in lower demand in the ports and, in sequence, increases the ammonia bunker prices. Therefore, more ships will avoid these ports and the demand decrease even more. On the contrary, ports with relatively low ammonia bunker prices attract more demand, and thus, bunker prices get lower, like the ports of Singapore and Rotterdam Maasvlakte. As a result, the demand converges to a smaller set of ports. This results in higher ammonia bunker prices in the other ports. The number of ports participating in the ammonia bunker network reduces by almost 50%, from 644 to 336, as shown in table [8.12.](#page-79-0) This map presents the division of ammonia bunker ports all over the world, and the top 10 bunker ports, based on their demand, are marked with a blue star. The top 50 ammonia bunker ports are marked in blue. These ports are predicted to show high potential for becoming ammonia bunker ports. The set of high-potential ports for ammonia bunkering is strongly dependent on the main routes of the applied ships.

Table [8.15](#page-77-0) lists the ammonia demand, port visits and related ammonia bunker price for the twenty ports with the highest demands and the ten ports with the smallest demand after the fifth run. In this selection, the inactive ports, ports with zero demand, are not included. The results in this table propose an average reduction of the ammonia bunker price in the active ports and an increase in the demand of the top five of the ports. The ports of Singapore and Rotterdam Maasvlakte experience an extensive growth in their demand of around 500%. Due to the assumption that unlimited growth of the ammonia facilities is possible, the demand increases and bunker price decreases further. The number of port visits represents only the port visits for bunkering and does not show the same level of increase. This suggests that the amount of ammonia bunkered per visit is larger as a result of the bunker strategy. However, a remark should appointed that the ships are operating by a fixed route after the rerouting and, therefore, cannot bunker in a port other than the ports in their route.

The [Port model](#page-8-0) includes no limits for the bunker price or demand in the ports, and therefore, the ammonia bunker price decreases when the demand grows, as illustrated in figure [4.7](#page-40-0) in chapter 4. The diagrams in figures [8.9](#page-78-0) and [8.10](#page-78-1) depict the development during the ten iterations for, respectively, the demand and the ammonia bunker price of the top 10 bunker ports. The diagrams suggest that after run 5, the results are balanced, and the demand and bunker prices do not show substantial transformations. In order to illustrate the effect on the bunker ports with a small demand, figure [8.11](#page-79-1) shows the demand fluctuation of the bottom ten ammonia bunker ports. This diagram demonstrates that the opposite effect applies to small bunker ports.

Table 8.15: Top 20 ports with the highest demand and the bottom 10 with the lowest demand in scenario S3B after run 5. The ports with a demand of zero tons are excluded from the table.

Figure 8.9: The trend on the ammonia demand in the top 10 bunker ports per run.

Annual Ammonia Bunker Price in Top 10 ports in USD/t

Figure 8.10: The trend on the ammonia bunker price in the top 10 bunker ports per run.

Figure 8.11: The trend on the ammonia demand in the bottom 10 bunker ports per run.

Ammonia Bunker Port map with Demand Top 10 and Top 50

Figure 8.12: Ammonia demand in bunker ports represented in the world.

8.5.4. EU Ports

Since this research is related to the [MAGPIE](#page-7-2) project, which is an [European Union \(EU\)](#page-7-3)-oriented project, this section contains an extension of the results regarding bunker ports in Europe. Table [8.16](#page-80-0) summarizes the results for the demand, port visits and ammonia bunker price for the top ten ports in the [EU](#page-7-3) and figure [8.13](#page-80-1) shows the ports deviation of the ammonia bunker ports in the [EU](#page-7-3). The table also lists the position of the ports on the global ranking between the breaks. These results are promising for the position of Europe in the ammonia-powered shipping network, as nine ports out of the [EU](#page-7-3) top ten are also represented in the global top 20.

Ammonia Bunker Port map with Demand Top 10

Figure 8.13: The ammonia demand of bunker port in the EU.

9

Discussion and Recommondations

This research presents a model for an ammonia-powered shipping network to simulate the operational impact of ammonia. In order to develop this model, assumptions are made to narrow the scope and complexity of the model and maintain a relevant reflection of the shipping network. These assumptions affect the results of the research. Besides, the developed model is generalized to process a large number of ships and highly depends on the input data. In this chapter, the assumptions, limitations and overall interpretation of the research results are discussed. Furthermore, the set of recommendations is presented for further research and suggestions for improvements on the [APSN model](#page-7-0).

9.1. Discussion

The model developed in this research should be interpreted as a general simulation of a shipping network powered by ammonia. The model is based on an existing bunker strategy optimization model for the shipping industry. Current research shows bunker strategy models for a small set of ships that perform a fixed route, and the bunker prices considered are independent of the ship's behaviour. The [APSN model](#page-7-0) offers novelty in the simulation of the bunker strategy for 1025 ships and integrates the ammonia demand into the Port model to determine the bunker price for each port. In addition, the shipping network is implemented in the context of ammonia.

The final [APSN model](#page-7-0) is based on assumptions to facilitate the performance for 1025 ships and the implementation of ammonia. In order to develop a model applicable to all ships, the equations used in the data processing and final model are generalized. This is done to narrow the complexity of the model to maintain a feasible research objective within the scope of the master thesis. Therefore, the findings in this research should be interpreted as an indication of the impact of ammonia on the operational feasibility of the ships and bunker ports.

In this section, the remarks regarding the assumptions, data limitations and model implementations are discussed.

9.1.1. Assumptions

The assumptions made in this research that reflect the results and the interpretation of the model are listed and briefly explained in this subsection.

Green Ammonia

This research is focused on the operational feasibility of ammonia as a marine fuel, following the promising research regarding the environmental impact, the carbon-free character, and technological developments. In order to test the operational feasibility, the research assumes the technological challenges are solved and do not result in operational complexities. Besides, the assumption is made that ammonia safety restrictions are developed, and the effects of toxicity and corrosiveness are not considered in this research.

Homogenuous Shipping Market

The research is based on a homogeneous market for green ammonia. This assumes that there is no competition from other marine fuels, and each port supplies the same quality of green ammonia. In reality, the energy demand of the shipping industry will be supplied by several energy carriers, see figure [1.3,](#page-16-0) and not all ships will make the transition to ammonia. This will impact the demand in the ports and the market position of ammonia. Besides, the homogeneous shipping market assumes an immediate transition of ammonia. However, the 1.5*◦*C pathway for [IRENA](#page-7-4) shows a gradual transition to ammonia. This will increase the impact on the operational feasibility of the first movers.

EU

This research is dedicated to the [MAGPIE](#page-7-2) project, which is EU-oriented. As a result, the ships are selected for their operations in the EU territory, and all ships have to visit at least one EU port during 2022. This provides an advantage for the EU ports compared to the ports located in other regions.

Availability of Ammonia

In order to ensure a homogeneous shipping market, it is assumed that the green ammonia is available in all ports in the shipping network. In reality, many ports do not have ammonia bunker facilities.

Subsidies and Emission Taxes

In order to stimulate the [GHG](#page-7-5) reduction, governments or other organizations will likely use subsidies and taxation, like the EU [ETS](#page-7-6). Regulations for bunker levy on marine fuels and emission trading systems will speed up the transition to alternative fuels and will play a significant role of [Market-based](#page-7-7) [Measures \(MBM\)](#page-7-7) (Lagouvardou et al., [2022](#page-88-0); Psaraftis et al., [2021;](#page-89-0) Y. Wang and Wright, [2021\)](#page-90-0). This will reduce the loss of revenue that is found in the results. However, regulations like these are not considered in this research.

Ship Design

In this research, the size of the ships is considered a fixed parameter, and the total volume of the cargo capacity, fuel tank, and energy system is constant, as is the related total weight. The ammonia fuel energy systems replace the existing energy systems, which will extend the required volume. This results in a reduction of the cargo capacity. However, it could also be considered to enlarge the total ship according to the increase of the energy system and fuel tank if this results in smaller revenue losses.

9.2. Model and Data Limitations

9.2.1. Ammonia Bunker Strategy Model

Fleet selection

Due to the size requirement, there are no [Ro-Ro](#page-8-1) ships included in this research;. These can also play an interesting part in the transition to ammonia, as the ships are mostly sailing a fixed route on frequent rotation. This would ensure a certain demand in the ports and it secures a base fuel sale for ports to start with the bunker supply for ammonia. Besides, the conditions of the route of the [Ro-Ro](#page-8-1) ships also raise the question of what their bunker strategy will be.

Freight rates

The available information on container freight rates and tanker earnings is not completely comparable and could explain the significant difference in the results. Therefore, the results of fleet revenues should not be compared to other fleet types. This could be improved by more specific freight rates data and more accurate data on the cargo transported during each trip.

Sailing speed optimization

One of the initial goals was to optimize the sailing speed in order to extend the range. A clear result was difficult to reach with the available AIS data. This data contains time stamps for departure and arrival in ports, but the exact trip distance and sailing speed need to be estimated. In many cases, the average trip speed was below the 60% MCR, and it is not likely that ships were sailing at this speed. In those cases, the assumed sailing speed was corrected. More detailed trip and fuel consumption data is necessary to conclude the sailing speed optimization. In addition to this, multiple previous studies have been done on this matter. Lowering the speed of the ships and even more to decrease fuel consumption regarding ammonia may not be very realistic.

Distance Calculation

The AIS data used for the port calls is very gross. This only provides a start and an endpoint for each trip, but not specific routing. For smaller trips and trips closer to land, there is no significant difference in the actual sailed distance. However, considering the longer trips and the trips crossing the oceans or other wide waters, the determination of the exact route and sailed distance is much harder and, therefore, less accurate. The python toolkit searoute only calculates the shortest route between two points, avoiding crossing land, but does not consider less preferable areas to avoid because of weather or environmental conditions that can slow down the sailing speed or expand the sailed distance. It is plausible to consider this to be the reason for the low speeds for a significant number of trips. It is important to consider this when looking at the results of the impact of ammonia on sailing speed.

Bunker Strategies

The model applies two bunker strategies. It would be interesting to know from shipowners what their approach is. Do they use contracts with ports and what are their ways to avoid or compensate the higher fuel prices. This information is known to be of strategic importance to shipowners and is kept as company confidential information. However, knowing the actual bunker ports on the route of each ship would help to generate a sufficient baseline scenario.

9.2.2. Port Model

Linear Bunker Price Elasticity

The price elasticity for ammonia is considered to decrease linearly with the increasing demand. When limits of the ammonia bunker facility capacity are reached, the [CAPEX](#page-7-8) increases by the fixed costs of the ammonia bunker facilities to supply the extra capacity. The [Port model](#page-8-0) does not consider bunker price and demand limits. Therefore, the ammonia bunker price for ports with substantially high or low demands results in extra values. This occurs especially for the ports with low demand, which will supply ammonia for 30000 USD/t. In reality, it is not likely that this will be the case, and the bunker price elasticity will have limitations due to all kinds of circumstances.

Time Integration

The current [APSN model](#page-7-0) does not vary with the time to limit the computational time of the simulations. Therefore, the ammonia demand in each port is estimated for the whole year, and the ammonia bunker price is based on the required capacity to supply this demand. However, the ammonia demand in the ports fluctuates during the year and could result in peak demand at certain moments. This could affect bunker prices and the availability of ammonia in the ports.

Initial port parameters

The initial port parameters determine the attractiveness of the port to be used as a bunker port in the first runs. This affects the number of visits and bunker demand in the following runs. It would be interesting to investigate the sensitivity of the results to the parameters that determine the initial attractiveness.

Start port is first bunker port

The assumption is that the ships always have to bunker at the first port of the route. Otherwise, the ship cannot complete the first trip. However, a significantly high ammonia bunker price in the first port has a high impact on the total annual fuel costs of the ship. For example, the ports with higher prices vary from 1500 to >38000 USD/t. This can be the reason for the small increase in fuel costs for larger fuel tanks. Besides, ships are always required to have a fuel reserve in case of unpredictable circumstances. This fuel margin is 10% of the fuel tank capacity and will also be bunkered at the start port. If the fuel tank increases, the amount of ammonia bunkered for the fuel margin increases as well. This results in extra bunker costs in the first port.

Shared ammonia facilities

The ports in the model are identified based on their [UN/LOCODE](#page-8-2)s. However, the locations related to the [UN/LOCODE](#page-8-2)s suggest that some larger ports have multiple [UN/LOCODEs](#page-8-2) referring to different areas in the port. These areas are approached as different ports, and their demands are calculated separately. In reality, these ports could cooperate and arrange one ammonia bunker facility for the total port instead of each area. In this case, the demand for the ammonia bunker facility increases, and this could reduce the bunker price of the port.

9.3. Recommendations

The [APSN model](#page-7-0) as applied in scenario S3B should be interpreted as a first draft. The results of the model show a well-performed structure between the different segments of the model. In this section, four recommendations are discussed to refine the simulation of an ammonia-powered shipping network:

1. Speed Optimization

Due to the inaccurate time and speed data obtained from the AIS data, the speed optimization needs further research. For this, it would be necessary to have more accurate speed data recorded during the trips. The optimization in the [APSN model](#page-7-0) assumes a constant speed of 60% MCR; this is a theoretical optimization, and more detailed data could give insight into the realistic improvement of fuel consumption.

2. Extension of the Port model

The port model calculates the ammonia fuel price based on demand in a homogeneous market. There might be influences like taxes and subsidies or limitations to the growth of the production facilities that would affect the market position of the ports. The sensitivity to the initial pricing and attractiveness of ports could be further investigated by simulating the effect of strong national policy to stimulate the development of ammonia production facilities. A separate study of the port model could include a stepwise transition of ammonia by increasing the market share of ammonia over a certain period. This would give an additional quantitative overview of the transition phase.

3. Input data

The [APSN model](#page-7-0) could be improved to be more accurate for the ammonia impact on the ships by collecting more input data. For example, more specific data on the bunker strategy, accurate cargo data, the [CAPEX](#page-7-8) for retrofit and newly built ammonia-powered ships and an indication of the subsidies can improve the results of the model.

4. Smaller Ships

The current [APSN model](#page-7-0) is applied to a set of ships with a [DWT](#page-7-9) larger than 50000 tonnes. This represents the largest group of ships in the global fleet. *Deliverable 3.1* suggests that ships with a [DWT](#page-7-9) over 25000 tonnes are feasible for a transition to ammonia (Pruyn et al., [2022](#page-89-1)). Therefore, it would be interesting to investigate the impact of ammonia on these ships in further research. An increase in the fuel tank volume could have more impact on these ships due to their smaller size.

10

Conclusion

Last year, IMO expanded their goal to reduce the GHG emissions from international shipping to 80% by 2050 to prevent global warming by 1.5*◦*C. Regulations, like the ETS, are introduced to stimulate the energy transition in the maritime industry and discourage the use of conservative fuels. Recent research, both academic and from the industry, suggests ammonia as a high-potential alternative fuel due to its carbon-free character. Despite the technical developments in ammonia, its energy density is almost three times lower than that of fuel oil. This results in a challenge for the ship's design and performance, considering larger fuel volumes. Besides, ammonia bunker ports do not exist at this moment, and therefore, the bunker opportunities for ammonia are uncertain. These two challenges result in the main research question of this research, as formulated in Chapter 2:

What is the operational impact on the ship design, performance and bunker port network when switching to ammonia as a marine fuel, considering a homogeneous shipping market?

In order to substantiate the answer to the main research question, the following sub-questions are investigated:

- 1. What parameters have a significant influence on the operational performance of seagoing vessels, like the fuel consumption and bunkering pattern?
- 2. What are the model requirements to simulate the operational impact of ammonia on the ship design and performance and the bunker port network?
- 3. What is the impact on the **fuel tank volume** of seagoing vessels with an economical and operational feasible ammonia bunker strategy?
- 4. What is the impact on the **sailing speed** of seagoing vessels with an economical and operational feasible ammonia bunker strategy?
- 5. What is the impact on the **sailing range** of seagoing vessels with an economical and operational feasible ammonia bunker strategy?
- 6. Which **ports** are suitable to be part of an ammonia bunker port network, which is economical and operationally feasible?

In the first part of this research, a MILP optimization model is developed to simulate an ammoniapowered shipping network. This model demonstrates the relationship between the fuel tank volume, the sailing speed, and the range of the ship and simulates, based on AIS data, the optimal balance between the increase of the fuel tank volume and the reduction of the sailing range. In order to quantify the impact of ammonia on these parameters, the optimization is monetized by calculating the fuel costs and cargo income and minimizing the loss in revenue. The [APSN model](#page-7-0) includes a rerouting model to provide alternative routes when the range limits the feasibility of the trips and considers two bunker strategies: trip bunkering and forward bunkering. The large set of ships of five fleet types facilitates the ammonia demand to the bunker port network. Based on this demand, the ammonia bunker price is determined in the enclosed port model.

The scenarios in S0, S1 and S2 develop the base for the final simulation in scenarios S3A and S3B. Scenario S0 define the baseline for the [APSN model](#page-7-0) and is the reference data for the following scenarios. The scenarios in S1 are directed to the impact of the sailing speed. The results of this scenario show a substantial impact of the sailing speed on fuel consumption and, with that, in the loss in revenue. This suggests that the ships have to reduce their sailing speed to realize the transition to ammonia. However, due to inaccurate [AIS](#page-7-10) data for sailing speeds, it is not possible to include a plausible speed optimization in the model. The scenarios in S2 determine the range for the fuel tank volume increase considered in the optimization scenarios of S3. For a fuel tank volume of 350%, there are still ships that cannot complete all the trips in their route. There, the maximum increase is set to 400%. The minimum increase is assumed to be equal to the original volume of the fuel tank.

The simulations in scenarios S3A and S3B show the impact of ammonia on the fuel tank volume and sailing range of the ships. The optimal increase of the fuel tank volume strongly depends on the bunker strategy of the shipowner. The trip bunkering strategy (S3A) results in a preference for smaller fuel tank volume and thus accepts a shorter sailing range. Due to the strategy to bunker in each port on the route, this creates no benefits for extensive ranges. This results in an average increase of the fuel tank volume to 109% for the total fleet. On the other side, the forward bunker strategy results in significant benefits for the ships with larger fuel tank volumes, especially for the LNG carriers and product tankers, as shown in figure [8.8](#page-76-0). The results of the crude tankers are divided over the whole range, but they also show a peak for high tank volumes and an increased range. The results show no evident preference for a specific increase for the bulkers; besides, their average increase is smaller than that of the rest of the fleet. Finally, the containerships have the lowest loss of revenue between 175% and 275% increase in the fuel tank volume.

The approach of the bunker strategy strongly reflects the impact of the switch to ammonia on the bunker port network. For the trip bunkering strategy, nearly all ports in the model remain active, and the deviation of the ammonia demand in the ports resembles the initial deviation. The forward bunker strategy shows the impact of the new bunker port choice on the ammonia demand in ports in the bunker network. The forward bunker strategy searches for the ports with the lowest bunker price, making the model converge the general demand to a smaller set of ports. This implies that the larger ports continue to attract more demand as their ammonia bunker price gets lower. The two largest ports especially show a significant increase in demand. Considering the [MAGPIE](#page-7-2) project, the results for the [EU](#page-7-3) ports emphasize the promising position of Europe in the transition to ammonia.

To conclude, the technological and environmental opportunities for ammonia as a marine fuel nominate the fuel as a solution for a carbon-free shipping industry. In this research, the [APSN model](#page-7-0) shows that the operational impact of ammonia on the ship design and performance is manageable for containerships, bulkers and product tankers. For crude tankers and LNG carriers, the operational feasibility of switching to ammonia requires more research. Further research into speed optimization is recommended. Although the simulations of sailing speed scenarios demonstrate that the sailing speed affects the fuel consumption and revenue of the ships significantly, more accurate speed and time data will improve the credibility of the [APSN model](#page-7-0) with an optimization including the sailing speed.

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Extra Results S4B

The diagrams in this appendix are an extension to the diagram shown in figures [8.6](#page-74-0) and [8.7](#page-75-0). The annual fuel costs per fleet type in scenario S3B are shown in figure [A.1](#page-92-0) (run 0 to run 5) and figure [A.2](#page-93-0) (run 6 to run 10). The annual loss in revenue per fleet type in scenario S3B is shown in figure [A.3](#page-94-0) (run 0 to run 5) and figure [A.4](#page-95-0) (run 6 to run 10).

Figure A.1: Evaluation of the Annual Fuel Costs per Fleet Type in Scenario S3B (run 0 to run 5).

Figure A.2: Evaluation of the Annual Fuel Costs per Fleet Type in Scenario S3B (run 6 to run 10).

Figure A.3: Evaluation of the Annual Loss in Revenue per Fleet Type in Scenario S3B (run 0 to run 5).

Figure A.4: Evaluation of the Annual Loss in Revenue per Fleet Type in Scenario S3B (run 6 to run 10).

B

Ship Selection

The tables in this appendix represent the ship selection applied in the case study. The total fleet contains 1025 ships and is divided into five fleet types: 112 bulkers, 300 containerships, 313 crude tankers, 125 product tankers and 176 LNG carriers. The parameters used to identify the ships are included in this appendix. The identification parameters are the shipname, the IMO number, the built year and the deadweight.

B.1. Bulkers

Table B.1: The Bulkers used in the case study of this report.

B.2. Containership

Shipname	IMO number	Built Year	DWT [t]
Afif	9732345	2017	149360
Akadimos	9706308	2015	114856
Al Dahna Express	9708825	2016	199744
Al Dhail	9732307	2016	149360
Al Jasrah	9732321	2016	149360
Al Jmeliyah	9732357	2017	149360
Al Mashrab	9732319	2016	149360
Al Murabba	9708837	2015	149360
Al Muraykh	9708863	2015	199744
Al Nasriyah	9708849	2015	149360
Al Nefud	9708813	2015	199744
Al Zubara	9708875	2015	199744
Alexis	9686900	2015	79274
Atacama	9718947	2016	113227
Barzan	9708851	2015	199744
Callao Express	9777606	2016	123587
Cap San Juan	9717204	2015	123101
Cap San Lazaro	9717216	2015	123101
Cape Akritas	9706190	2016	134869
Cape Kortia	9727613	2017	134869
Cape Pioneer	9719874	2017	79329
Cape Sounio	9727625	2017	134869
Cape Tainaro	9706205	2017	134869
Cartagena Express	9777618	2017	123490
CCNI Andes	9718935	2015	113073
CCNI Angol	9683867	2015	113213
CCNI Arauco	9683843	2015	112588
CMA CGM Arkansas	9722651	2015	104236
CMA CGM Bali	9867827	2021	158999
CMA CGM Benjamin Franklin	9706891	2015	185000
CMA CGM Bougainville	9702156	2015	186528
CMA CGM Carl Antoine	9729087	2017	109808
CMA CGM Champs Elysees	9839131	2020	220868
CMA CGM Columbia	9722663	2015	104236
CMA CGM Concorde	9839208	2021	221250
CMA CGM Estelle	9729116	2018	109808
CMA CGM Ganges	9718117	2015	111034
CMA CGM Georg Forster	9702144	2015	186745
CMA CGM Hermes	9882499	2021	156198
CMA CGM Hope	9897755	2021	154700
CMA CGM Iguacu	9859131	2021	158999
CMA CGM Jacques Joseph	9729104	2017	109808
CMA CGM Jacques Saade	9839179	2020	221250
CMA CGM Jean Gabriel	9729128	2018	109794

Table B.2: The Containerships used in the case study of this report.

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B.3. Crude Tankers

Table B.3: The Crude Tankers used in the case study of this report.

B.4. Product Tankers

Table B.4: The Product Tankers used in the case study of this report.

B.5. LNG Carriers

Table B.5: The LNG Carriers used in the case study of this report.

