

# ENHANCING eVTOL PERFORMANCE THROUGH TILT- WING ROTATION TECHNOLOGY

Sargam Shinde<sup>1</sup>, Sai Salagare<sup>2</sup>, Ashutosh Devkate<sup>3</sup>, Soham Muknak<sup>4</sup>, Rushikesh Salunkhe<sup>5</sup>, Sheetal Ghongte<sup>6</sup>, Pradeep Karbhari<sup>7</sup>

*1234567 Pune Institute of Aviation Technology, Pune affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, India*

[sargamshinde.puneiat@gmail.com](mailto:sargamshinde.puneiat@gmail.com)

[saisalagare.puneiat@gmail.com](mailto:saisalagare.puneiat@gmail.com)

[ashutoshdevkate.puneiat@gmail.com](mailto:ashutoshdevkate.puneiat@gmail.com)

[sohammuknak.puneiat@gmail.com](mailto:sohammuknak.puneiat@gmail.com)

[rushikeshsalunkhe.puneiat@gmail.com](mailto:rushikeshsalunkhe.puneiat@gmail.com)

\*\*\*

**Abstract** - This study investigates the creation of a new prototype for a vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) aircraft, focusing on overcoming noise reduction challenges. As urban air mobility demands increase, there is a growing need for aviation solutions that are quieter and more environmentally friendly. The research introduces a holistic approach that incorporates advanced structural designs and optimized propulsion methods aimed at lowering sound emissions during key flight stages, such as lift-off, hovering, and descent. Emphasizing both noise reduction and operational efficiency, the design process ensured that the aircraft maintained essential qualities like stability, maneuverability, and fuel efficiency. Controlled testing results indicated that the aircraft was able to substantially reduce noise levels when compared to traditional designs. This was accomplished by strategically positioning propulsion components to minimize noise interference, using lightweight materials that help absorb aerodynamic noise, and incorporating an electric engine for enhanced thrust control, contributing to a quieter and smoother flight experience. The shift to an electric engine not only improved acoustic performance but also reduced environmental impact, supporting the development of more sustainable flight technologies.

The research highlights the possibility of achieving significant noise reduction without compromising flight performance. This advancement offers a promising solution to the noise-related challenges of urban air mobility, facilitating wider acceptance and compliance with regulations. Ultimately, the progress demonstrated by this prototype represents a step toward sustainable aviation that meets the evolving needs for efficient vertical take-off and landing features.

**Key Words:** Acoustic improvement, electric propulsion, noise reduction, sustainable aviation, urban air mobility.

## 1.INTRODUCTION

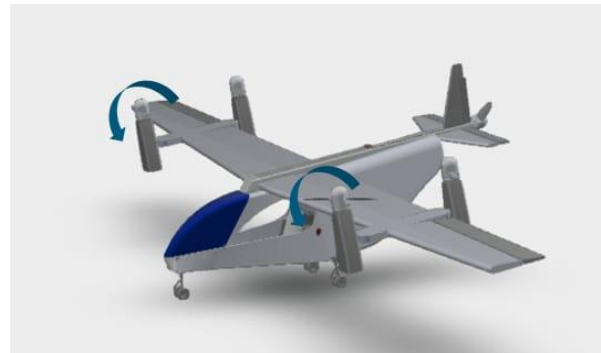
Vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) aircraft represent a significant advancement in aviation technology, enabling efficient operation in environments where traditional runways are impractical. These aircraft utilize rotating wings or rotor systems to achieve vertical lift and hover capabilities, offering greater flexibility for various applications, including search and rescue operations, urban mobility, and remote area accessibility.[9] The ability to transition seamlessly between vertical take-off and forward flight provides VTOL aircraft with the operational versatility required to access confined or remote spaces with out VTOL design is addressing environmental and community concerns, with noise reduction emerging as a primary objective. Noise pollution from conventional rotorcraft, such as helicopters, has long been a limiting traditional runway infrastructure. One of the most critical considerations in modern factor for widespread urban deployment. Therefore, our research emphasizes the development of quieter propulsion and operational systems to mitigate acoustic disturbances and enhance societal acceptance of this technology. A key strategy employed to achieve this objective is the integration of electric propulsion systems. Electric engines significantly reduce mechanical noise and vibrations compared to traditional combustion engines, providing smoother and quieter flight operations. The absence of combustion processes not only lowers environmental impact but also contributes to a more stable and silent thrust profile during lift-off, hover, and landing phases. Moreover, electric motors enable more precise control of power output, which

supports optimized rotor performance and further noise reduction.

By advancing the understanding and implementation of noise reduction technologies, this work contributes to the growing demand for sustainable and community-friendly aerial solutions. The design innovations explored in this study aim to enable VTOL aircraft to operate more harmoniously within urban and environmentally sensitive environments, paving the way for future advancements in aerial mobility and transportation systems.

## 2. Tilt-wing VTOL

The tilt-wing VTOL system is an advanced aerial platform that combines the vertical take-off and landing features of rotorcraft with forward-flight efficiency of tilt wing aircraft. The defining feature of this system is its tilting wing mechanism, where the entire wing assembly, including the engines or propellers, pivots to facilitate smooth transitions between different flight modes. In vertical flight, the wings are oriented upright, allowing the propulsion system to generate lift much like a traditional rotorcraft, enabling the aircraft to take off, hover, and maneuver in tight spaces without requiring a runway.[9] As the aircraft gains altitude, the wings gradually tilt forward until they are fully horizontal, transitioning to efficient forward flight powered primarily by aerodynamic lift generated by the tilted wing structure. This seamless mode-shifting capability makes the tilt-wing VTOL suitable for diverse and demanding operational environments such as airports and urban air mobility, where both precision control and long-range efficiency are critical.



**Fig-2: Tilt-wing VTOL**

(<https://www.mathworks.com/help/uav/ug/customizevtol-configuration.html>)

### 2.1 Transition Phase Calculations

In the tilt-wing phase, the angle of the wing ( $\theta$ /theta) changes to provide forward thrust and simultaneously.

Key considerations:

Resolve lift and thrust vectors during the wing tilt transition.

Thrust components:

$$T_x = T \cos\theta \quad (1)$$

$$T_y = T \sin\theta \quad (2)$$

Where,

$T_x$  = Forward thrust component

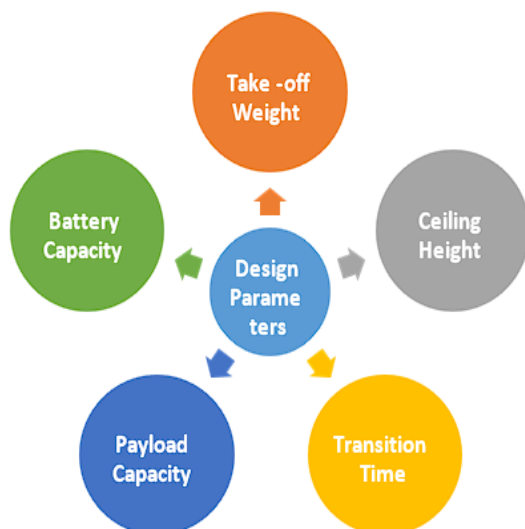
$T_y$  = Vertical lift component

$\Theta$  = angle between thrust and longitudinal axis of aircraft.

During the tilt-wing transition, the wing rotates from a vertical hover position ( $\theta=90^\circ$ ) to a horizontal cruise position ( $\theta=0^\circ$ ). The transition angle must balance between lift generation and forward motion until full forward flight is achieved.[11]

One of the key advantages of the tilt-wing VTOL aircraft is its operational versatility. Unlike conventional aircraft that require long runways for take-off and landing, this system can operate in confined spaces, making it ideal for locations with limited infrastructure. Its ability to hover and loiter allows it to perform tasks that are traditionally reserved for helicopters, such as search and rescue, surveillance, or vertical supply delivery. Meanwhile, its forward-flight efficiency gives it the speed, range, and fuel economy of a tilt wing aircraft, making it a more sustainable option for long-distance operations.

Additionally, the tilt-wing design enhances flight stability during transition phases, reducing turbulence and improving passenger comfort compared to other vertical lift systems.[9] From an environmental standpoint, modern tilt-wing VTOLs powered by electric or hybrid systems reduce carbon emissions and noise pollution, making them more suitable for operations near populated areas. The aerodynamic efficiency achieved during forward flight also translates into lower energy consumption, allowing these aircraft to travel greater distances



**Fig-1: Design Parameter of VTOL**

on less fuel or battery power.[1] The ability to hover, perform vertical maneuvers, and efficiently cruise forward makes tilt-wing VTOLs a game-changing technology in applications ranging from air taxis to critical runway operations and logistical support in aviation sectors.

### 3. Design Concept

#### 3.1 Tilt-Wing mechanism

The tilt-wing aircraft have their entire wing till along with the propulsion system. This enables the shift from vertical takeoff to horizontal flight by Rotating the wing & engine together.

#### 3.2 Lift and Thrust

Tilt-wing aircraft have engines attached to the wings, which can rotate to provide vertical lift during take-off and landing, and produce horizontal thrust for forward flight. [3]

#### 3.3 Pivoting System

The pivoting mechanism must be robust, precise and lightweight. Typically actuator (such as electric motors, hydraulics system or servomechanism) are used to rotate the wing. These actuators control lift the tilt angle, which generally ranges from  $90^0$  (vertical) to  $0^0$  (horizontal).

#### 3.4 Control of Lift

The wing tilt may be adjusted either by the pilot directly or automatically by the flight control system, which regulates the wing angle to enhance stability and control during transitions.[9]

#### 3.5 Engine on The Wing

In a tilt-wing design, the propulsion system is typically mounted on the wing itself, either as electric motors.

#### 3.6 Wing Design

The wing shape plays a crucial role in the overall performance of the aircraft. The wing must generate enough lift when the aircraft is in a vertical position and offer minimal drag during horizontal flight. Fixed-wing mode: In horizontal flight, the wing behave like that of a typical fixed- wing aircraft, producing lift through the relative airflow.

#### 3.7 Flight Control System

One of the most challenging aspects of a tilt-wing aircraft is ensuring stable and safe flight during the shift from vertical to horizontal modes. The flight control system (often aided by computer algorithms and sensors) manages the aircraft's transition and stability.

#### 3.8 Automatic Transition

The system adjusts the wing's tilt angle, engine thrust, and control surfaces in real-time, ensuring smooth transitions between vertical and horizontal flight modes.

#### 3.9 Aerodynamic Stability

In the VTOL mode, the aircraft's stability is critical, and it requires control surfaces and possibly additional aerodynamic

features (like stabilizers or tail planes) to help maintain balance when hovering. In cruise mode, the aircraft behaves like traditional airplane, with the wings providing the necessary lift and the control surfaces providing stability and control.

#### 3.10 Wing Strength and Weight

Since the wing tilts, it must be structurally strong enough to handle both the forces of vertical lift and the aerodynamic forces during high-speed flight. Advanced materials like lightweight composites (carbon fiber, for example) are often used to minimize weight while maintaining strength and rigidity.

#### 3.11 Landing Gear

Tilt-wing aircraft typically have landing gear that allows for vertical landing or a short take-off and landing (STOL) capability, as the wings' tilt can eliminate the need for long runways.

### 4. Implementation Plan

Traditional VTOL aircraft and helicopters both rely on vertical take-off and landing capabilities, but they differ significantly in design and performance.[4]Helicopters use rotary wings, which generate a lot of noise and require significant fuel consumption, leading to high operational costs and environmental impact. On the other hand, traditional VTOL aircraft often use fuel-powered jet engines or turboprops, which also produce high noise and are less efficient in urban environment due to their larger size and complex mechanics.

In contrast, our VTOL project is design with a tilt-wing mechanism that allows the wing to rotate to a 90-degree angle during take-off, enabling vertical lift-off.[10] Once the aircraft gain stability, the wing transitions back to their original fixed-wing position, optimizing aerodynamic efficiency for horizontal flight. Powered by electric engines and batteries, the system significantly reduces noise levels. The electric engines drives the propellers, which further minimize the sound pollution, making the aircraft more environmentally friendly and suitable for urban air mobility This combination of tilt wing technology and electric propulsion offers a quiet, efficient, and sustainable solution for vertical and horizontal flight. Here's a revised table with parameters for electric powered VTOL aircraft, concentrating on prototype design.

Parameter	Value	Description
Maximum Take-Off Weight (MTOW)	1.5 to 3 kg	Total weight including payload and battery
Noise Level	60 to 75 dB	Sound level during operation

Payload Capacity	0.5 to 1 kg	Maximum additional load the drone can carry
Vertical Speed	3 to 5 meters per second	Climbing or descent rate
Air Pollution	Zero-emission (electric power)	No exhaust pollution from electric motors
Range	3 to 5 kilometers	Maximum Operational flight distance

**Table 1:** VTOL Small Drone Model Specifications

#### 4.1 Working

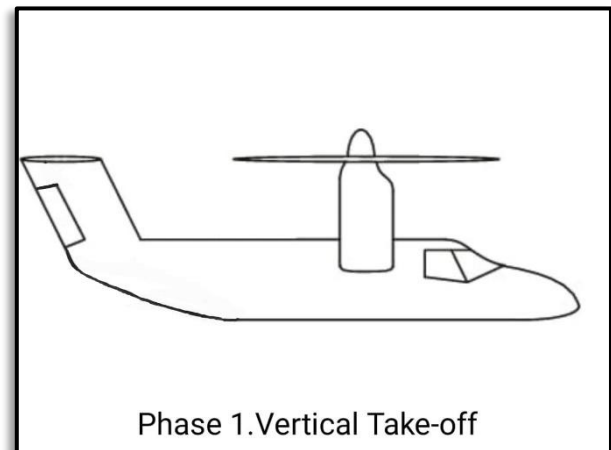
**Tilt-Wing Operation:** During take-off, the wing rotates to a 90-degree vertical position, allowing the propellers to generate upward thrust for vertical lift-off. Once the aircraft stabilizes at the desired altitude, the wing gradually tilts back to its horizontal position. This transition redirects propeller thrust forward, enabling fast and efficient horizontal flight. The tilting motion is powered by servo actuators controlled by the onboard flight computer, ensuring smooth and precise operation.

**Power Supply System:** The aircraft uses powerful batteries to run its electric motors. These batteries send power through a system that controls how much energy each motor gets. This system helps the motors run smoothly and efficiently. The batteries are lightweight but strong enough to provide power for both vertical take-off and horizontal flight.

##### 4.1.1 Flight Control Operations

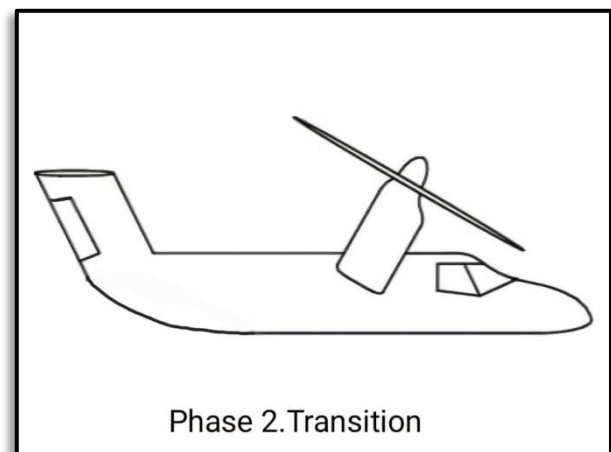
Flight control uses electronic switches. During take-off, the system switches to vertical flight mode by tilting the wing and adjusting motor speeds for lift. Once the aircraft is stable, the wing tilts back to allow horizontal flight. Commands from the controller manage propeller speeds and navigation for smooth and efficient operation. For landing, the wing tilts back to the vertical position for a safe descent and landing. This setup combines advanced wing control and electric power for quiet and efficient air travel.[7]

#### 4.2 Steps to Fly Tilt-wing eVTOL



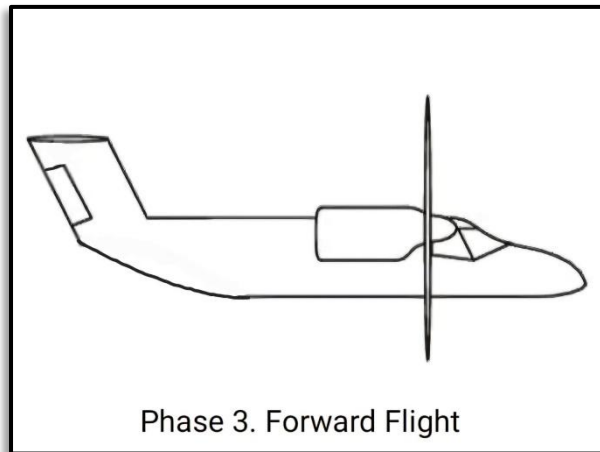
**Fig-3:** Phase 1 Vertical Take-off

During the take-off phase, the wing is positioned in a fully vertical orientation. The propellers produce an upward thrust, allowing the aircraft to ascend in a manner similar to a helicopter.



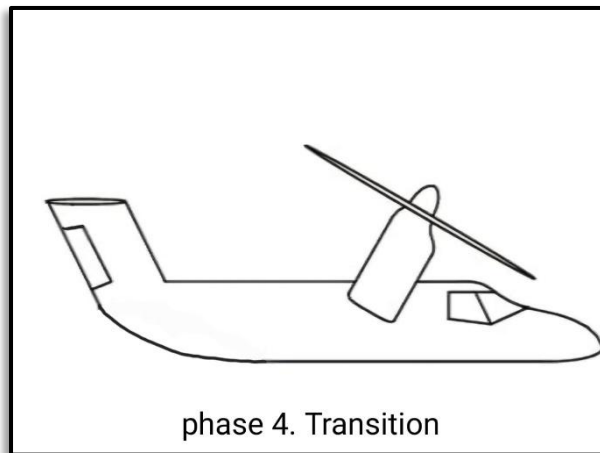
**Fig-4:** Phase 2 Transition

During phase two, the wings pivot forward, transitioning from a vertical to a horizontal position. As this happens, the source of lift shifts from rotor-generated thrust to aerodynamic lift provided by the wings.



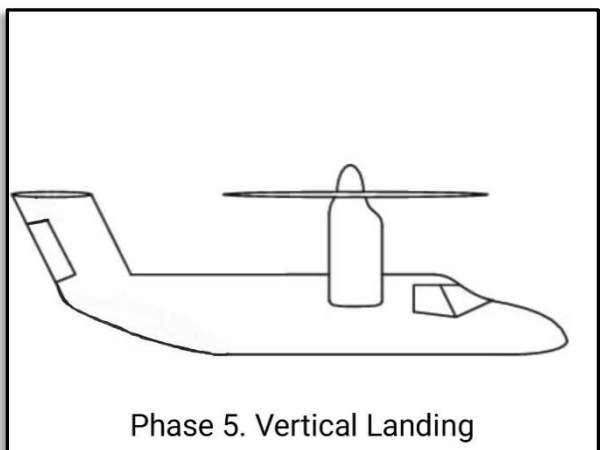
**Fig-5:** Phase 3 Forward Flight

During the cruise phase, the wing becomes fully horizontal, functioning like a conventional airplane. The propellers generate forward thrust, while the wings primarily provide lift.



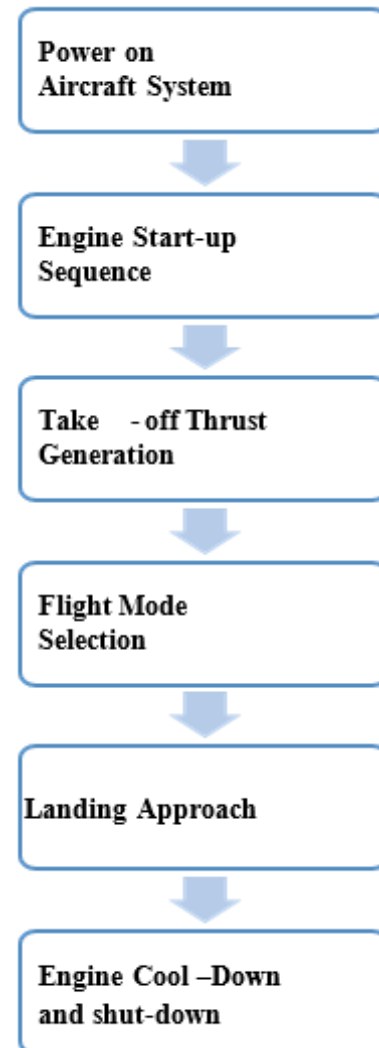
**Fig-6:** Phase 4 Transition

In phase four, the wing starts tilting upward to decrease forward speed. As a result, lift transfers from the wings to the propellers.



**Fig-7:** Phase 5 Vertical Landing

During the landing phase, the wings return to a vertical position, similar to take-off. The propellers produce vertical thrust to ensure a smooth landing.



**Fig-8:** Operation of VTOL

The operation of a VTOL aircraft from start-up to shutdown follows a precise and structured sequence. It begins with powering on the aircraft system, where the electrical components are activated for system diagnostics and readiness checks. This is followed by the engine start-up sequence, where electric engines are initialized, and their performance is stabilized to ensure sufficient thrust capabilities.

Next, during the take-off thrust generation, the motors or engines ramp up to produce the required lift for vertical ascent. As the aircraft gains altitude and stability, the system enables flight mode selection, which allows transitions between hover, vertical take-off, forward flight (cruise), and descent modes, depending on mission requirements. For efficient navigation, the flight control system dynamically manages propeller speeds, wing tilts, and thrust levels to optimize performance for each flight phase.

During the landing approach, the aircraft reduces speed and altitude, transitioning back to a hover or vertical descent configuration. Propeller and motor adjustments are made to achieve a stable, controlled descent. Once on the ground, the system moves into the engine cool-down and shutdown phase,



where the motors reduce power gradually, ensuring thermal stability and safety before completely shutting down. This structured process ensures safe, efficient, and controlled operation for every VTOL flight.

## 5. Technological Advancements in VTOL

Electric propulsion offers significant energy efficiency and environmental benefits compared to traditional combustion engines. Electric engines convert energy into thrust more efficiently, reducing overall energy consumption. Additionally, they produce zero on-site emissions, which greatly minimizes the environmental footprint—a critical factor in urban settings. Their inherently quieter operation also makes them ideal for densely populated areas, reducing noise pollution significantly compared to conventional rotor systems. In terms of aerodynamic efficiency, the tilting wing design maximizes the advantages of fixed-wing performance during forward flight. Once the aircraft transitions from vertical lift to horizontal movement, the wing's aerodynamic profile reduces drag and improves overall range. This configuration allows the aircraft to fly more efficiently at higher speeds, similar to conventional airplanes. Moreover, the tilting mechanism enables a smooth and controlled transition between vertical take-off/landing and cruise modes. By carefully balancing the vertical lift and horizontal thrust through adjustable wing tilt, the system optimizes performance across different phases of flight, ensuring both stability and energy efficiency throughout the journey. [7]

## 6. Comparative Analysis of Rotorcraft and Tilt-Wing VTOL Systems

Helicopters excel at hovering and VTOL due to their rotor-based design, which can generate high levels of lift quickly. However, they tend to be less efficient in forward flight due to drag and rotor inefficiencies. Helicopters excel at VTOL and hovering because their rotor systems can rapidly generate high levels of lift, making them ideal for operations in confined spaces. However, these rotors also create significant aerodynamic drag during forward flight, leading to lower efficiency compared to the streamlined performance of fixed-wing aircraft.[4][5]

Electric engines with a tilting wing offer VTOL advantages by providing distributed, redundant propulsion with high and low-speed torque and energy efficiency. Compared to conventional thrust vectoring—which requires complex, heavy mechanical nozzle systems to redirect exhaust—the tilting wing method is more responsive and easier to maintain, offering smoother transitions and improved safety.

## 7. Equations

$$\text{Battery Capacity : Ah} = \frac{\text{Power (W)} \times \text{Flight Time (h)}}{\text{Battery Voltage (V)}} \quad (3)$$

Power Consumption: Calculate how much power the VTOL uses during flight (in watts)

Flight Duration: Determine how long you want the VTOL to fly (in hours).

Multiply Power and Time: Multiply the power (W) by the battery voltage (V) to get the total energy required (in watt-hours)

Divide by Battery Voltage: Divide the total energy by the battery voltage (V) to find the battery capacity (Ah).

Result: The final value tells you the number of ampere-hours your Battery should have to achieve the desired flight time.[8]

For example,

Power Consumption (P) = 1000 W

Flight Duration (t) =  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours (30 minutes)

Battery Voltage (V) = 22.2 V

By using the given equation,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Energy : Wh} &= \text{Power (W)} \times \text{Time (h)} \\ &= 1000 \times \frac{1}{2} \\ &= 500 \text{ Wh} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Battery Capacity : Ah} &= \frac{\text{Energy (Wh)}}{\text{Battery Voltage (V)}} \\ &= \frac{500}{22.2} \\ &= 22.52 \text{ Ah} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

## 8. Expected results

The rapid development and deployment of Tilt-Wing Electric Vertical Take-off and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft are expected to redefine urban air mobility by providing a new, faster mode of transportation that bypasses traffic congestion on the ground. These eVTOLs are designed for urban air taxis, delivery services, and other advanced mobility solutions, offering significant potential for cities looking to reduce road traffic and improve the efficiency of transportation networks. However, as these aircraft transition from experimental prototypes to operational fleets, one of the primary challenges is ensuring that they can function seamlessly in urban environments, which are characterized by a dense population, complex infrastructures, and numerous environmental variables.

The presence of buildings, varying wind patterns, and the noise generated by the aircraft itself all contribute to the complexity of urban operations. Furthermore, eVTOLs are expected to operate in close proximity to residential, commercial, and recreational areas, where minimizing their environmental impact will be critical to public acceptance. The noise generated by their rotors and propulsion systems can be a significant concern, especially in cities that are already dealing

with high levels of ambient noise. These concerns about noise pollution could hinder the widespread adoption of eVTOLs.

## 9. Future Scope

The future scope of our Electric Vertical Take-off and Landing of Aircraft by using Tilt-wing and Electric Motors also involves several advancements.

- Tilt-wing eVTOLs will revolutionize urban air mobility by combining vertical take-off with efficient fixed-wing flight, enabling faster travel across cities. Integrated with existing transport systems through strategically placed vertiports, these aircraft will reduce traffic congestion and noise pollution and provide a reliable, on-demand transportation alternative for growing urban populations.
- Tilt-wing eVTOLs will extend beyond cities, enabling convenient regional air mobility without large airport infrastructure. They'll provide faster travel between nearby towns, support underserved areas, and improve access to remote regions, benefiting commuters, tourists, and essential services while promoting economic growth and connectivity.
- Tilt-wing eVTOLs will transform logistics by enabling fast, efficient delivery of critical goods like medical supplies and e-commerce packages. Their vertical takeoff and landing capabilities suit urban and remote areas, while autonomous systems ensure 24/7 operations, optimizing last-mile delivery, reducing costs, and improving reliability.
- Tilt-wing eVTOLs can revolutionize emergency medical services by providing rapid transport for paramedics, doctors, and critical supplies directly to hospitals or accident sites, bypassing traffic. They offer life-saving capabilities in rural areas by quickly delivering medical equipment or transferring patients to trauma centers. Their speed, accessibility, and flexibility make them a vital asset for emergency response teams, potentially saving thousands of lives annually.
- Tilt-wing eVTOLs provide the military with versatile capabilities for troop deployment, reconnaissance, logistics, and medevac missions. Their runway-independent operation makes them ideal for forward bases and disaster relief. Equipped with advanced surveillance and autonomous delivery systems, these quieter, energy-efficient aircraft will enhance military effectiveness and adaptability.
- Tilt-wing eVTOLs support sustainable transportation with zero direct emissions, thanks to electric motors. As battery technology improves, these aircraft will become even more eco-friendly. Integrating renewable energy at vertiports will further reduce their carbon footprint, contributing to climate goals while offering cleaner, quieter urban and regional travel.
- The development of tilt-wing eVTOLs is fueled by advancements in electric propulsion, battery technology, and autonomous flight systems. High-efficiency motors, lightweight materials, and distributed propulsion enhance performance, safety, and reliability. AI-powered flight controls ensure precision, while ongoing innovations promise greater range, faster charging, and broader adoption across industries.
- Tilt-wing eVTOLs can transform tourism by providing scenic aerial views of landmarks, coastlines, and mountains. They offer easy access to remote attractions like island resorts and national parks without large landing strips. With clean, electric-powered flights, eVTOLs will attract adventure-seekers, boost local economies, and reduce environmental impact.
- Autonomous flight will revolutionize tilt-wing eVTOL operations, with advanced sensors and machine learning enabling safe navigation in urban environments. This will improve efficiency, reduce costs, and integrate with smart city systems for optimized flight routes. In the future, fully autonomous eVTOL fleets will provide on-demand air mobility, making air travel as accessible as ridesharing service.

## 10. Conclusion

In conclusion, the tilt-wing eVTOL represents a major leap forward in aerial transportation, offering a blend of performance, efficiency, and sustainability. Its innovative tilt-wing design enables smooth transitions between vertical and forward flight, making it ideal for operation in confined spaces without the need for runways. Powered by electric propulsion, it offers a quieter and more environmentally friendly alternative to traditional aircraft, with zero direct emissions. Focused on stability, reliability, and optimized performance, the tilt-wing eVTOL is a practical solution that supports the future of modern air mobility.

## 11. Acknowledgement

We want to thank Dr. Dilip Chaudhary for his invaluable support and guidance throughout this project. A special thanks to Miss. Sheetal Ghongte, our project guide, for her expertise, patience, and thoughtful feedback. We also sincerely thank Mr. Pradeep Karbhari for his assistance and the Pune Institute of Aviation Technology for providing the environment to make this project a success.

## 12. Reference :

1. Motion Coordination for VTOL Unmanned Aerial Vehicle by Abdelkader Abdessameud, Abdelhamid Tayebi.
2. Vertical Take-off and Landing (VTOL) Aircraft by I.B Laskowitz
3. Design and Fabrication of VTOL Remote Control Plane by Tahir Nabeel, Hafiz Fahad Butt
4. Helicopter and VTOL aircraft work like this: Arkell, Basil, Taylor, John.
5. Helicopter theory: Wayne Johnson
6. Fig.2:<https://www.mathworks.com/help/uav/ug/customizevtol-configuration.html>
7. NASA Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing (eVTOL) Aircraft Technology for Public Services – A White Paper NASA Transformative Vertical Flight Working Group 4 (TVF4) by Johnny T. Doo, Marilena D. Pavel, Arnaud Didey, Craig Hange, Nathan P. Diller, Michael A. Tsairides, Micheal Smith, Edward Bennet, Micheal Bromfield, Jessie Mooberry
8. "Battery Management Systems: Design by Modelling" by H.J. Bergveld, W.S. Kruijt, and P.H.L. Notten.
9. "Transition Strategies for Tilt-Wing Aircraft" by Marc May, Daniel Milz, and Gertjan Looye.
10. NASA's Advanced Vertical Take-off and Landing Aircraft Concept <https://youtu.be/KR0rVQXWE8w?si=YOHAfb9awV3U0c6U>
11. "Thrust Control of VTOL Aircraft – Part Deux" by Daniel C. Dugan.