

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY

Implementing Agreement for Co-operation in the Research, Development and Deployment of Wind Turbine Systems Task 11

62nd IEA Topical Expert Meeting

MICRO METEOROLOGY INSIDE WIND FARMS AND WAKES BETWEEN WIND FARMS

May 5-6, 2010 National Renewable Energy Center (CENER)

Sarriguren - Navarra (Spain)

Organized by: CENER





Scientific Co-ordination:

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For more information about IEA Wind see www.ieawind.org



International Energy Agency

Implement Agreement for Co-operation in the Research, Development and Deployment of Wind Turbine Systems: <u>IEA Wind</u>

The IEA international collaboration on energy technology and RD&D is organized under the legal structure of Implementing Agreements, in which Governments, or their delegated agents, participate as Contracting Parties and undertake Tasks identified in specific Annexes.

The IEA's Wind Implementing Agreement began in 1977, and is now called the Implementing Agreement for Co-operation in the Research, Development, and Deployment of Wind Energy Systems (IEA Wind). At present, 24 contracting parties from 20 countries, the European Commission, and the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) participate in IEA Wind. Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, EWEA, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy (two contracting parties), Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway (two contracting parties), Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States are now members.

The development and maturing of wind energy technology over the past 30 years has been facilitated through vigorous national programs of research, development, demonstration, and financial incentives. In this process, IEA Wind has played a role by providing a flexible framework for cost-effective joint research projects and information exchange.

The mission of the IEA Wind Agreement continues to be to encourage and support the technological development and global deployment of wind energy technology. To do this, the contracting parties exchange information on their continuing and planned activities and participate in IEA Wind Tasks regarding cooperative research, development, and demonstration of wind systems.

Task 11 of the IEA Wind Agreement, Base Technology Information Exchange, has the objective to promote and disseminate knowledge through cooperative activities and information exchange on R&D topics of common interest to the Task members. These cooperative activities have been part of the Wind Implementing Agreement since 1978.

Task 11 is an important instrument of IEA Wind. It can react flexibly on new technical and scientific developments and information needs. It brings the latest knowledge to wind energy players in the member countries and collects information and recommendations for the work of the IEA Wind Agreement. Task 11 is also an important catalyst for starting new tasks within IEA Wind.



IEA Wind TASK 11: <u>BASE TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION</u> <u>EXCHANGE</u>

The objective of this Task is to promote disseminating knowledge through cooperative activities and information exchange on R&D topics of common interest. Four meetings on different topics are arranged every year, gathering active researchers and experts. These cooperative activities have been part of the Agreement since 1978.



Two Subtasks

The task includes two subtasks. The objective of the first subtask is to develop recommended practices for wind turbine testing and evaluation by assembling an Experts Group for each topic needing recommended practices. For example, the **Experts** Group wind speed on measurements published the document titled "Wind Speed Measurement and Use of Cup Anemometry". A document dealing with Sodar measurements are presently under development.

The objective of the second subtask is to conduct topical expert meetings in research areas identified by the IEA R&D Wind Executive Committee. The Executive Committee designates topics in research areas of current interest, which requires an exchange of information. So far, Topical Expert Meetings are arranged four times a year.

Documentation

Since these activities were initiated in 1978, more than 60 volumes of proceedings have been published. In the series of Recommended Practices 11 documents were published and five of these have revised editions.

All documents produced under Task 11 and published by the Operating Agent are available to citizens of member countries participating in this Task.

Operating Agent

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Canada	National Resources Canada	
Denmark	Risø National Laboratory - DTU	
European Commission	European Commission	
Finland	Technical Research Centre of Finland - VTT Energy	
Germany	Bundesministerium für Unwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit -BMU	
Ireland	Sustainable Energy Ireland - SEI	
Italy	Ricerca sul Sistema Energetico - RSE S.p.A.	
Japan	National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology AIST	
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Norway	The Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate - NVE	
Spain	Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas CIEMAT	
Sweden	Energimyndigheten	
Switzerland	Swiss Federal Office of Energy - SFOE	
United Kingdom	Uk Dept for Bussines, Enterprises & Regulatory Reform - BERR	
United States	The U.S Department of Energy -DOE	



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a)	Participants

- b) Discussion
- c) Future actions under the umbrella of IEA Wind



INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Prepared by Daniel Cabezon and Ignacio Martí, CENER

a) Background

Power output and feasibility of big wind farms deployed in large arrays may be dramatically decreased by wake effects, largely influenced by local atmospheric boundary layer. On average these power losses can reach 10-20% of the wind farm power output. In addition to the power losses an increase on fatigue loading is generated at those turbines operating under wake conditions.

Average evolution of power losses in wind farms may be affected by several effects mainly related to the wind farm topology and local wind climate, characterized by wind speed, wind direction, atmospheric turbulence and stability.

From this point of view, wind turbine wakes represents an interesting topic of study due to the momentum deficit and the increased level of turbulence created by turbines inside a wind farm may cause an important reduction in power output and an increase on unsteady and fatigue loads on downstream wind turbines. Besides, a good knowledge of the aerodynamics in the near wake region is essential to understand the physics of power extraction by wind turbines.

Recently a Euromech Coloquium on Wind Turbines Wakes was organized to discuss about this specific topic (Madrid, October 2009), and was clearly demonstrated the large number of on going research activities, with the target to go deeper in the knowledge of the physical phenomena of the wake effects inside Wind Farms, as well as the wake effects between neighbor Wind Farms.

b) Techniques

The state of the art to estimate wake effects of wind turbines in wind farms, is to solve the incompressible Navier-Stokes equations closed using CFD turbulent models coupled to actuator disk-type approximations of wind turbine rotors.

Due to the fact that the cost of computers is decreasing, modelling wind turbines and wind farms wakes using CFD methods is an alternative to the faster engineering models.

Wind turbines are modelled as actuator discs in atmospheric flows using RANS methods. Turbulent length scales inside wind farms are modelled at the same time. The RANS methods are modelling all the scales of



turbulence together, estimating an equivalent length scale and velocity scale. These two scales are combined to form the eddy viscosity concept. The Reynolds stresses are then estimated using this eddy viscosity and the local wind speed gradient using the so-called Boussinesq approximation.

The different size in turbulent length scales between the freestream flow typical of the atmospheric boundary layer and the wake flow inside wind farms introduces an imbalance problem and supposes a real challenge to the turbulence models used in RANS methods, unsolved up to now.

c) Topics to be addressed

The main objective is to hold a meeting to discuss and gather information on:

- Numerical and analytical models of wind turbine wakes in wind farms
- Turbulence closure models
- Experimental work based on wind tunnel and full scale field experiments.
- Influence of atmospheric stability
- Influence of topography
- Fatigue and loads
- Offshore wind farms

The participants are encouraged to prepare presentations relevant to these objectives.

d) Expected outcomes

One of the goals of the meeting will be to gather the existing knowledge on the subject and come up with suggestions / recommendations on how to proceed for future developments. Based on the above a document will be compiled containing:

- Presentations by participants
- Compilation of the most recent information on the topic
- Main conclusions of the discussion session.
- To define IEA Wind RD&D's future role in this topic



e) Agenda

Wednesday, May 5th

- 9:00 Registration. Collection of presentations and final Agenda
- 9:30 Introduction by Host Mr. Ignacio Marti, CENER
- **10:00** Introduction by AIE Task 11 Operating Agent. Recognition of Participants Mr. Felix Avia, Operating Agent Task 11 IEAWind R&D
- **10:30 Presentation of Introductory Note** *Mr. Daniel Cabezon, CENER*

•11:00 Coffee Break

<u>1st Session Individual Presentations:</u>

- **11:30** Overview of Modeling and Measurements on Flow in and around Wind Farms *Arno J. Brande, ECN Wind Energy, The Netherland*
- **12:00 Multi-Array Windfarm Modeling Program Initiative** Michael Robinson, National Renewable Energy Laboratoy (NREL), USA
- **12:30** CFD Modeling of Wind Farms in Complex Terrain Daniel Cabezón, CENER, Spain

•13:15 Lunch

2nd Session Individual Presentations

- **15:00 Wind turbine wakes at Horns Rev wind farm** Anders Sommers, Vatenfall Vindkraft AB, Denmark
- **15:30** Coupled Turbine/Atmosphere Modeling at Los Alamos National Laboratory Rodman Linn, Alamos National Laboratory, USA
- 16:00 Some Selected Results from Early WT-studies and Wake Effects in the Closely Spaced Lillgrund Offshore Wind Farm

Jan-Ake Dahlberg, Vatenfall Vindkraft A, Sweden

•16:30 Coffee Break

- **17:00 Wake Combination Models** *Peter Stuart, RES, UK*
- **17:30 Presentation 8 Title** Juan Jose Trujillo, Carl Von Ossieztky University of Oldenburg, Germany
- 18:00 Adjourn



21:30 Dinner

Thursday, May 6th

3rd Session Individual Presentations

- **09:00** Numerical Site Calibration for estimating a performance of wind turbine at complex terrain Iida Makoto, The Univ. of Tokyo, Japan
- **09:30 Presentation 10** Alla Sapronova, Uni Research, BCCS, Norway
- **10:00 Wake effects within and between large wind projects** Nick Baldock, Garrad Hassan, UK
- **10:30 Presentation 12** *Peter Clive, SgurrEnergy Ltd, UK*

11:00 Coffee Break

- **11:30 Presentation 13 Cesar Castillo,** *Garrad Hassan Ibérica L.S.U., Spain*
- 12:00 Discussion
- 13:00 Summary of Meeting
- 13:30 Technical Tour: Visit to the Experimental Wind Farms

16:00 End of the meeting



PRESENTATIONS































TEM 62nd "Micro meteorology inside wind farms and wakes between wind farms"

























TEM 62nd "Micro meteorology inside wind farms and wakes between wind farms"

NREL National Renewable Energy Laboratory innovation for Our Energy Future

Multi-Array Windfarm Modeling Program Initiative



IEA Wind Task 11:

Micro Meteorology & Wind Farm Wakes

May 5-6, 2010

Michael Robinson, PhD Pat Moriarty, PhD Matt Churchfield, PhD NREL's National Wind Technology Center

National Wind Technology Center Overview

- Turbine testing since
 1977
- Development of design and analysis codes
- Pioneers in component testing
- Unique test facilities
 Diada Tasting
 - Blade TestingDynamometer
 - CART turbines
- Modern utility-scale
- turbines
- Approx. 160 staff on-site
- Budget approx. \$35M
- Many CRADAs with industry
- Leadership roles for international standards







TEM 62nd "Micro meteorology inside wind farms and wakes between wind farms"







- Technically not a CFD solver, but a collection of C++ classes that perform various operations for numerically solving equations
- Comes with various solvers
 - Ranging from Navier-Stokes to solid mechanics to financial
 - Extremely flexible & easily modified
- CFD Toolbox
 - Unstructured finite-volume
 - OpenMPI for parallel processing
 - Many turbulence closure schemes already coded
 17 RANS & 16 LES
 - Limited to 2nd order accuracy at present
 - Includes 30+ convection schemes
























































































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Vattenfall	Vindkraft AB
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2600 2400 22 CB7

Front row – Whole Farm











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Coupled Turbine/Atmosphere Modeling at Los Alamos National Laboratory

> Rodman Linn and Eunmo Koo Earth and Environmental Sciences Division

Support for this work provided by LANL LDRD program and LANL Institutional Computing

Work done in collaboration with National Renewable Energy Laboratory, USA



HIGRAD/FIRETEC

- Atmospheric hydrodynamics model
- Two or three-dimensional calculations
- Fully compressible formulation
- Multi-phase continuum and Lagrangian capabilities
- Test bed for various numerical solution techniques (method of averages, Newton Krylov, etc.)
- Multi-scale TKE LES turbulence closure
- Wide range of applications including
 - Urban dispersion
 - Aerosol transport
 - Explosive dispersion
 - Hurricanes
 - Mars atmospheric processes (dust storms, CO₂ migration)
 - Wildfires
 - Urban firestorms
 - Wind interaction with wind turbines
 - Seed dispersal/Migration of invasive species



TEM 62nd "Micro meteorology inside wind farms and wakes between wind farms"



FIRETEC simulations of the International Crown Fire Modeling Experiment (ICFME) plot 1. The following slide contains an illustration of the coupled effects of the fire and vegetation on the flow field in this simulation.



SIMULATION IMAGE AND PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE SOUTH



SIMULATION IMAGE AND PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE NORTHWEST



SIMULATION IMAGE AND PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE NORTHWEST



T SIMULATION IMAGE AND PHOTOGRAPH OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA ICFME WEBSITE, HTTP://FIRE.CFS.NRCAN.GC.CA/RESEARCH/ENVIRONMENT/ICFME/PHOTOGRAPHS_E.HTM



slide illustrate simulations that have been performed for validation of averaged HIGRAD winds and turbulence against data (shown in the plots in the middle of the slide) for various locations (shown at the top of the slide) in the vicinity of a fuel break.



Leveraging HIGRAD development to benefit Wind Energy Research

- HIGRAD provides a capability to study the interactions of winds and turbines in complex situations influenced by:
 - Topography
 - Dynamic/unsteady wind conditions
 - Inhomogeneous vegetation
 - Solar heating/unstable mixing
 - Interaction between multiple turbines
- HIGRAD results can be coupled and will complement existing public and private tools
- HIGRAD can utilize output from larger scale/lower resolution meso-scale/weather modeling tools.



Use of this combination of Eulerian and Lagrangian capabilities to represent wind turbine interaction with the atmosphere



Two-turbine simulations



Turbine-induced vorticity



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Nine Turbine Simulation in laminar shear (Turbine-induced Vorticity)



36 Turbine Simulation in laminar shear (Axial velocity component at hub height)





Turbine/wind/topography





Wind Turbines on Complex Terrain



IEA WIND ENERGY - Task 11: Base Technology Information Exchange

Total Vorticity Resulting from Topography, Vegetation, and Turbines



Los Alamos

Vorticity Difference Resulting from Turbines



• Los Alamos

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Exploring the complexity of simulating real conditions?

Influence of:

- Turbulence?
- Atmospheric Stability?
- Shear profile?
- Horizontal Gradients?





Simulation conditions: •Laminar wind shear •UH=10 m/s

Neutral conditions

•Tracer emitted in single vertical line behind turbines



Integration of TurbSim with HIGRAD (work in progress with NREL)



Current HIGRAD/FIRETEC-WindBlade Activities

- Explore the broad general trends of the model results
- Begin interfacing with mesoscale atmospheric models and TurbSim for definition of dynamic boundary conditions
- Implementing hub/generator resistance characteristics
- · Identify partners with whom to work
- Validate the simulations results or identify shortcomings
 - Publicly available data
 - Through partnerships and collaborative agreements
























































TEM 62nd "Micro meteorology inside wind farms and wakes between wind farms"



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There is concern that:

- Uncertainty of CFD
- o Difference of Simulation codes
- o Boundary conditions
- o Range of applicability how complex terrain is.
- oetc

Enforcement of numerical site calibration by some simulation codes in Japan

























1









































	Historical	The Art	R&D
Turbine representation	Empirical	Empirical	Numerical
Wake propagation	Empirical 2D	Numerical 2D	Numerical 3D
Wake interaction	Empirical	Empirical	Numerical
		-	





















TEM 62nd "Micro meteorology inside wind farms and wakes between wind farms"


























1 st and 2 nd Generation							
Table 1: 1st and 2nd Generation Characteristics							
Characteristic	1 st Generation Devices 2 nd Generation Devi						
Degrees of freedom	1: typically azimuth	2: azimuth and elevation					
Scan geometry	A single "virtual mast" approach, either VAD or DBS	All-sky scanning enables use of any scan geometry					
Range	Range ~200m vertically upwards						
Distance resolution	Time of flight or focussing methods	Time of flight methods only					
© SgurrEnergy L							



































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TEM 62nd "Micro meteorology inside wind farms and wakes between wind farms"



Summary of IEA RD&D Wind – 62th Topical Expert Meeting

Daniel Cabezón, Javier Sanz, Félix Avia, CENER

a) Participants

A total of 15 persons registered for this meeting. They represented the following countries: Denmark, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands, Spain, UK and the USA. A total of 13 presentations were given.

The participants represented a great variety of stakeholders related to the topic. Those were: research organizations, universities and consultants.

A total of 13 presentations were given:

- 1. Arno J. Brande, ECN Wind Energy, The Netherland
- 2. Michael Robinson, National Renewable Energy Laboratoy (NREL), USA
- 3. Daniel Cabezón, CENER, Spain
- 4. Anders Sommers, Vatenfall Vindkraft AB, Denmark
- 5. Jan-Ake Dahlberg, Vatenfall Vindkraft A, Sweden
- 6. Rodman Linn, Alamos National Laboratory, USA
- 7. Peter Stuart, RES, UK
- 8. Juan Jose Trujillo, Carl Von Ossieztky University of Oldenburg, Germany
- 9. Iida Makoto, The Univ. of Tokyo, Japan
- 10. Alla Sapronova, Uni Research, BCCS, Norway
- 11. Nick Baldock, Garrad Hassan, UK
- 12. Peter Clive, SgurrEnergy Ltd, UK
- 13. Cesar Castillo, Garrad Hassan Ibérica L.S.U., Spain



b) Discussion

Following the two days of presentations the floor was opened and a general discussion took place with the main target of reach conclusions derived from the presentation trying to identify priorities for new R&D activities, including specific actions to improve the present state of the art of this topic. A number of different points were handled.

In particular, the following topics were discussed, in order to decide which are the priorities:

- Necessity of new Wake codes
- Validation of Wake codes
- Data required for validation. LIDAR use for CFD models validation
- Stability
- Topography
- Future actions

- New Wake models and the necessity of codes validation.

The first topic under discussion was to analyse the necessity to develop new codes for wake modelling. There was a general consensus between the participants about the necessity to develop new codes, due to the limitations of the already existing wake codes.

Wind turbine wakes represent an important topic of research due to the need of new wake models as an alternative to engineering models and new data bases of specific measurements inside wind farms located at challenging environments such as offshore and complex terrain.

From the modelling point of view, several aspects not considered by traditional models must be solved such as the interaction with complex terrain, which has an important effect on the wake deficit and fatigue loading for the different spacing. For that purpose, more sophisticated models based on CFD technology are being developed in order to solve in detail the interaction between topographic features and wind turbine wakes.

Future trends focus on methods to measure and model the effect produced between big wind farms composed by huge wind turbines particularly at offshore sites and on how this effect can influence local wind climate. For this purpose, several upscaling hypothesis and a combination of mesoscale and microscale modelling could help to highlight some of these uncertainties.



-Validation of Wake Codes

A more formal wake model evaluation benchmarking is needed – likely in the framework of the IEA. The main objectives could be:

- \checkmark To provide a universal set of benchmarks for wake model evaluation
- ✓ To evaluate current wind farm model performance
- ✓ To increase the availability and scope of detailed validation data.

These benchmarks should involve model intercomparisons and also comparisons to field data.

One of the main conclusions is that the validations should be done in several steps. For the beginning it is necessary to perform a comparison of the codes for some well defined cases.

A second step could be a validation exercise using measured data from an isolated wind turbine installed in a not very complex site. Last step of the validation process could be done using data form wind turbines installed in a wind farm, including cases of installations in complex terrain and with more complex meteorological conditions.

- Data required for validation. LIDAR use for CFD models validation

From the measurements point of view, new data bases are needed in order to understand the behaviour of flow at the near and far wake regions of wind turbines and also inside wind farms.

As a general conclusion, more wind farm data are needed from different environments. Discussion is needed to decide the data type and format adequate for the validation.

New LIDAR measurements techniques are very promising in order to characterise wind speed distributions at areas affected by the presence of wind turbines under certain conditions. Complementary data bases from Scada systems of wind farms are also really valuable in order to complement wind speed information and validate complete wind farm models.

- Stability

Offshore industry have experimented an important development during the last years and big wind farms are being installed for several kilometres along the coasts. As part of this development, new wind farm models based on CFD but also on revised analytical models are needed to take into account the thermal effects produced by the atmospheric stability especially predominant at offshore sites. This effect have a clear impact on the wind shear and ambient turbulent intensity, making the recovery distance of the flow and wake effects to be modified intensively inside wind farms and consequently energy production and fatigue loading of wind



turbines between big wind farms. Nevertheless, stability of atmosphere is not easy to measure and classify so that some criteria are needed in order to homogenise this process.

These effects have some implications on wind farm and wind turbines design at offshore sites, where these special conditions make previous design criteria to be revised accordingly. Some new algorithms have started to be developed in order to optimize positions of big wind farms in terms of cost and output net production. Some aeroelastic codes are also being implemented as part of new wake models in order to estimate the influence of the disturbed flow on the wind turbine structures.

- Topography

In the previous TEM #59 about remote sensing, and TEM o#60 on Wind Farms in Complex Terrain, one of the topics under discussion was the definition of complex terrain (CT). There was also a general consensus between the participants about the necessity to have a clear definition of CT.

c) Future actions under the umbrella of IEA Wind

The development of a benchmarking framework for wind turbine wakes and wind farm modeling was proposed for some of the participants. The purpose is to gain insight into the benefits and drawbacks of a set of modeling assumptions for a wide range of applications. Much of this new task will involve benchmarking models of wakes against other models and verifications using good quality measured data.





Participants List - TEM -Micro Meteorology inside Wind Farms and Wakes between Wind Farms

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