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Energy research Centre of the Netherlands

Ontwerpsoftware voor windenergietoepassingen

Peter Eecen





Outline

- Introduction to ECN
- Introduction to Wind Energy
- Examples of research activities
 - Rotor aerodynamics dedicated codes
 - Wind farm aerodynamics CFD developments
 - Rotor aerodynamics Ansys CFX



Petten: Energy research capital of Europe







Mission: ECN develops and brings to market high-quality knowledge and technology for a sustainable energy system



ECN: Trias energetica



Engineering & Services











Why Wind Energy ?

no geo-political risk **no external energy dependence no energy imports no** fuel costs **no** fuel price risk **n** exploration **no** extraction **no** refining **No** pipelines no resource constraints **no** CO₂ emissions





....because wind energy is beautiful



The Facts

Global cumulative installed capacity

GLOBAL CUMULATIVE INSTALLED CAPACITY 1996-2009



GLOBAL ANNUAL INSTALLED CAPACITY 1996-2009

Global annual installed capacity

From: GWEC – Global Wind 2009 Report





The Facts

ANNUAL INSTALLED CAPACITY BY REGION 2003-2009



From: GWEC - Global Wind 2009 Report



The Facts

- New installed capacity and de-commissioned capacity in EU 2009 in MW.
- Total 25,963 MW

From: Wind Energy Factsheets By the European Wind Energy Association – 2010

www.ewea.org





The Facts – employment

Wind energy sector employment (2008-2030)



Wind Energy Factsheets By the European Wind Energy Association – 2010, www.ewea.org



Size evolution of wind turbines over time

In 25 years wind energy technology has developed enormously. With more R&D investment it can continue to become even more efficient and 1997 high performing.

From: Wind Energy Factsheets By the European Wind Energy Association – 2010 www.ewea.org





Blade sizes of today (61.5 m)

LM 61.5 P		
Product specifications		
Blade type	LM 61.5 P	
Rotor diameter (max.)	126.3 m	a strategy
Blade regulation	Pitch	
Length	61.5 m	
Max. chord	4,600 m	
Profiled area	183.0 m ²	AND AND THE OWNER OF THE OWNER
Weight	17,740 kg*	
Number of bolts	128	
Size of bolts	M36	
Bolt circle diameter	3,200 mm	
*Preliminary data		



Research Programme

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Knowledge Centre



- Rotor- and Farm Aerodynamics
- Integrated Wind Turbine Design (software)
- Operation & Maintenance (Condition monitoring / O&M Tool)
- Material research (WMC)



Research line: Rotor & Farm Aerodynamics

Rotor aerodynamics

- Theoretical and experimental research
- Use of CFD
- Development of industrial codes

Wind farm aerodynamics

- Theoretical modelling
- Use of CFD
- Experiments (wind tunnels, scaled wind farm, full scale) New ideas
- Strip on blade root
- Wind Farm control strategies
- Synthetic jets









Blade Element Momentum (being used for design)

ECN Research infrastructure



ECN The ECN AWSM code

• Numerical code based on the Generalized Prandtl's Lifting Vortex Line Method

Able to include:

- Analysis of multi-body configurations
- General-shape geometries
- Steady and unsteady analysis
- Yaw, pitch misalignments
- Non uniform wind conditions (local gusts and wind shear)

Coupled to ECN Aeromodule

Arne van Garrel: Development of a wind turbine aerodynamics simulations tool, ECN report



AWSM developed by: Arne van Garrel Extended and used by: Francesco Grasso







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Non conventional configurations





Non conventional configurations

Swept blades



The initial mold fabrication for Knight and Carver's sweep twist blade.





ROTORFLOW - development

Work by: Hüseyin Özdemir Arne van Garrel Henny Bijleveld

Engineering tools: *not accurate enough* Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes RANS Blade Element Momentum (BEM), Vortex line Thorough but method (AWSM), XFOIL, RFOIL time-consuming analysis Calculation time Simulation time: 15 s Nr. of wake panels: 750, 12 free roll up Wind speed 8m/s, and increased for 0.2s to 18n Free Vortex Wake Model CFD tools (CFX): too expensive, too much time - Several weeks on cluster Combination of Potential Flow and Boundary Layer Models RotorFlow BEM AWSI Physics Blade Element Momentum (being used for design)







RotorFlow VII: Quasi-simultaneous interaction



- Combines advantages of direct and simultaneous method
- Interaction law (I): approximation of inviscid flow (E) solved together with the boundary-layer equations (V)
- Interaction law is an algebraic equation



Work by: Hüseyin Özdemir Arne van Garrel Henny Bijleveld



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Work by: Benjamin Sanderse

Development of a wind farm CFD code

Physical phenomenon	Numerical model			
Wake model	Energy conserving discretization and Large Eddy Simulation	Turbine model Wake Terrain		
Turbine model	Actuator method			
Atmospheric inflow	Precursor simulation	Turbulent atmospheric inflow		
Terrain	Immersed boundary method	wake aerodynamics, wind Energy 2010		



Energy conserving discretization of fluid flow

Σ

- Wakes are important to wind farm aerodynamics
- Dissipation must be limited to 'keep' the wakes

Code to be developed is dedicated to task

- Energy conserving discretization
- LES approach
- actuator method
- Atmospheric inflow: Precursor simulation 5
- Terrain by immersed boundary method





Wind farm aerodynamics CFD code

- Development CFD tool requires work in many areas:
 - Suitable discretization schemes
 - Turbulence models
 - Terrain modeling
 - Actuator modeling
- Atmospheric turbulent inflow, coupling with mesoscale model

To answer simple questions: Optimum distance between turbines Optimum wind farm lay-out Influence of wind farm on local climate Assessment of control strategies Farm-Farm interaction Design specifications (mechanical loads in farm)



Use of commercial software Ansys-CFX Analyses of 2D configurations





Use of commercial software Ansys-CFX Analyses of 3D rotating configurations







•First cell thickness : 1mm

• MEXICO rotor – mesh setup

	Inner wedge	Outer wedge	Total
Number of Nodes:	1997919	691875	2689794
Number of Elements:	1953406	671328	2624734
Wedges:	4305	9744	14049
Hexahedra:	1949101	661584	2610685

ECN Visualisations – Ansys-CFX results Work by: Marc van Raalte

















Wind Energy contributes to CO₂ - reduction ambitions.

QUESTIONS?

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STATISTICS.